

The Leader

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—HUMBOLDT'S COSMOS.

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News of the Week.

MINISTERIAL quietism will not be suffered to take possession, as Lord John Russell seems to have proposed, of the whole session in Parliament. The Anti-Catholic ferment, which is understood to have been fomented as a diversion for popular energies and a cover to Ministerial inaction, will scarcely serve that turn. Several persons have evidently been bestowing the recess on enterprises which will give Ministers trouble, and among those persons is Lord John Russell himself. In his letter to the *Hull Advertiser*, Mr. Hume plainly intimates that he has been very busy; Mr. Roebeck's recent announcement implied that he had something very formidable to advance; taxation repealers, financial reformers, suffrage-extensionists, to say nothing of troublesome persons from a distance, like Mr. Fairbairn of the Cape colony, will not be put off their vocations by any half-pretended fuss-making "business of importance" concerning Pope Pius and his bull.

Lord John may have got up the No-Popery cry in his mind! but he will find it very difficult to satisfy the expectation he has raised, and he has set up some ulterior agitations which he could scarcely have expected. The *Guardian* professes to foreshadow the measure which Lord John Russell has urged the people to claim at his hands—a prohibition on the use of the Roman Hierarchical titles, under pain of two months' imprisonment. The *Guardian* also reports enquiries made by Government abroad, which are supposed to indicate a disposition to invite a Concordat with Rome. The Concordat will have the approval of most judicious politicians—precisely the class of which Lord John Russell's Durham letter showed so flagrant a disregard. That fact, indeed, does not disprove the notion that he is going to do something commendable; he may be going to take a turn of popularity-hunting among the judicious; but then what on earth will the poor man do with the clamorous crowd that he has called to the door of Parliament? A concordat with Rome will be the very thing to provoke new outcries of fright and fury from that respectable mob. Nor is it to be supposed that the technical prohibition of titles can satisfy the public expectation of a "measure": Lord John Russell himself has stamped it with ridicule by anticipation, when he said in Parliament that it would be absurd to disallow particular titles: such a law could only take effect in preventing ecclesiastics from calling *themselves* by the tabooed titles; it could not prevent the colloquial and popular use; unless Lord John does intend a law to pursue "Popish recusants"—authorizing the police to arrest any person detected in saying "Westminster" instead of "Melipotamus," and bring the culprit to trial before an English jury.

Besides the inherent difficulty of dealing with

the demands that Lord John instigated, there is the embarrassment of the further demands. The Russell agitation has drawn public attention to the fact, that the practical grievances which press upon members of the Church of England are its internal dissensions, its self-destructive heterodoxies, its not less destructive rigours of orthodoxy, its reversions to Rome; Lord John has raised questions an unsatisfactory settlement of which—and no settlement can be satisfactory—may bring about the long-threatened landslip of the Evangelical tract into the valley of Dissent, and drive forth congregations like those at St. Saviour's, at Leeds, now standing out for confession, to the very summit of the seven hills of Rome. How will Lord John Russell refuse the claim of the High Church party, this week embodied in petition for a renewal of Convocation? How will he allay the spirit of Anti-State Church, which is rearing its grim head at Anti-Popery meetings, like that in Southwark.

Some intentions imputed to the Government at Rome would have a very embarrassing effect: it is said that the Pope intends to disallow the proceedings against the Queen's Colleges in Ireland—disarming much of the prejudice and alarm at the bigotry of Rome; also, that he has transmitted to Ireland a bull separating the Bishoprics of Cloyne and Ross, and restoring the substantive Bishopric of Ross—asserting there that particular form of authority which is not to be gainsaid in "that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland," but is to be gainsaid in this part of the United Kingdom. If these things are true, Ministers court in Ireland that Pontiff whom they repel with affright in England, and they permit him to "insult" in Ireland that royal prerogative of Church supremacy which they so bravely defend in England, where it is so particularly safe and respected.

We do not see, therefore, what substance there is in the Ministerial measures that can serve the purpose of blocking out other subjects in the session of Parliament. At the same time there are as yet no indications that much will be forced upon Ministers or done by any other party. In all the meetings and manifestations of the week there is no indication of a new spirit—nothing to show that political parties have acquired pertinacity of purpose, or have abandoned the almost universal habit of *flinching*—nothing to suggest a hope of strong faith and resolute will to force forward measures founded on conviction, without regard to interests or effeminate dread of "consequences."

Perhaps nothing exposes the still subject condition of the People, even in Prussian Germany, than the travels of a new-born infant—which the reader will find related amongst our news—first in search of baptism, by the revolutionary name, "Jacobi Waldeck," which Pastors refuse to bestow; and then, in avoidance of compulsory baptism, by a more authentic name, which was at last enforced under military guard. Even the speech of M.

Manteuffel is scarcely more significant than this tale; although he does falsely denounce the constitutional resistance of the whole Hessian People as "an official revolution" "in gown and slippers"; avows that Prussia has broken with the revolution, as unsuccessful; and coolly adopts the reactionary interpretation which indignant Liberals put upon the "transparent policy" of King Frederick William. It is reported with probability that Prussia, Austria, and Russia are to meet shortly at Dresden, to reestablish the German Diet, with some slight qualification.

Meanwhile, the Stadtholderate of Schleswig-Holstein has given up the contest, and has handed over the German rights of Holstein, and the rights of Schleswig as an adjunct to Holstein, to the German Federation—whatever that may be.

The National Assembly of France has been performing a couple of farces. The first is in publishing the report of the Permanent Committee, which solemnly sat to investigate a good deal of the alarmist gossip about the late Ministry: it repeats some of the gossip and some of the explanations; leaves the Imperialist cries of the army and the Imperialist symbols of the Tenth-of-December Club in a frightful state of non-denial; but does not recommend any national action. The next farce is the report of the committee on the recent Ministerial crisis: the committee cannot make out that the dismissal of General Changarnier is technically erroneous; it expressly declares that responsibility for the late complications does not extend "beyond the Ministry"—meaning not to the President; but accuses the Ministry of "tendencies" hostile to the Assembly, and advises a vote of no confidence. Meanwhile, President Bonaparte has changed his Ministry, dismissed Changarnier, and split the garrison of Paris into two parts; and the hostile majority of the Assembly shrinks before him, its numbers palpably falling off. Such is always the effect of boldness marching straight onward to its purpose.

These feeble counterfeits of political movements scarcely concern us so much as some ugly portents non-political at home; disease appears to be uncommonly vigorous in both the physical and the moral world. The weather has been in a most abnormal state, the thermometer many degrees higher than the average for the first half of January, the barometer singularly low. We believe that the extent of illness, in London especially, far exceeds the ratio indicated by the mortality tables. Crime is extraordinarily rife; it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that burglary and highway robbery run riot in our well-watched town. There is a singular multiplicity of cases in which servants, paupers, and other helpless persons, are injured or killed by bad treatment and neglect. In the constant succession of railway accidents that at Ponder's-end, on the Eastern Counties Railway, stamps the management of the company as producing disaster and death. The diseased action extends to

high quarters, and assumes a very violent form in the conduct of the Customs Board: it has just called upon Mr. W. J. Hall, the eminent bonded warehousekeeper, to pay up £16 for duties deficient in certain transactions extending over twelve years, from 1828 to 1840, and demanded payment within one week on pain of withdrawing the bonding privileges. In his correspondence with the Board Mr. Hall shows that, if the deficiencies are not mere figments, they are ascribable to those negligencies of the Custom officers against which he, one of the parties to be watched, has constantly protested, and not *always* in vain. From the Customs he appeals for justice to the Treasury, and surely he will have it, unless the Treasury also has been taken unwell in its moral estate.

THE METROPOLITAN CHURCH UNION MEETING.

A meeting of members of the Church of England, called by the Metropolitan Church Union, was held on Tuesday, in the Freemasons' Hall, to consider the propriety of addressing the Throne and the Bishops on the subject of reviving the synodal functions of the Church. The meeting was not very numerously attended. Mr. Henry Hoare, banker, took the chair, and there were also present the Reverend G. Anthony, of East Brent, the Reverend Dr. Biber, the Reverend Mr. Cox, and several other clergymen and laymen of the Church.

The Chairman, in explaining the object for which they had met, said he sympathized with much of the public feeling which had been expressed against the late crowning act of Papal aggression, but he thought the religious part of the question had not been sufficiently kept in view. He had no feeling but that of loyalty to the Queen, but if they wished to support the Throne they must strengthen the Church, for that was the strongest support which the Throne could have. He denied that they wished a separation of Church and State: all they wanted was that the State should be a true and faithful partner.

Mr. Hughes, a barrister, moved the first resolution:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the recent daring aggression of the Pope is to be attributed, in a great measure, to the crippled state of the Church of England, the direct consequence of the long continued suppression of her synodal functions; that the Church of England can deal with this aggression only in her corporate capacity, that is to say, in her national synod, which the 139th canon declares to be 'the true Church of England by representation,' and that, therefore, the present emergency constitutes an additional plea for urging the revival of her synodal functions, upon the basis of the existing provincial convocations of Canterbury and York."

He spoke of the unheathy state of the Church, owing to the want of a Convocation. Twenty years ago that disease had reached a climax. Church principles were then scarcely known even by name. "Bishoprics were suppressed in the sister isle; the revenues of our cathedrals were confiscated; threats were held out of a mutilation of the Prayer-book, to make it more consistent with the spirit of the age." Then it was that a small band of faithful men began to contend "for Catholic truth, and the faith once delivered to the saints." He went on to speak of the debt of gratitude they owed to the writers of *Tracts for the Times*, and wound up by calling on all true believers to labour for the emancipation of the Church, "as dutiful and obedient children, looking neither to the right hand nor to the left, eschewing alike Puritanism and Popery."

The Reverend Ratray Sweet, in seconding the motion, said the offices of the Church of England were in most parishes reduced to a mere mockery, owing to the crippled state in which the Church was kept by the law. Again, "in ritual things the Church was a spectacle to all men; and in doctrinal questions he could only say that pulpit was seen against pulpit, charge against charge, and diocese against diocese, by which 'Rome's work was done as Rome herself always desired it should be done.'

The resolution was carried by a large majority.

Mr. Dudley Percival moved an address to her Majesty, praying that, in the exercise of the power vested in her royal person, and agreeably to the solemn pledge given at her coronation, her Majesty would be graciously pleased to issue her royal licence to the Convocations of Canterbury and York, on their next assembling according to custom, at the commencement of the Session of Parliament, in order that, upon their advice, and with her Majesty's assent, such steps might be taken as should be best calculated, not only to vindicate the Church of England from the recent aggression of the See of Rome, but to provide for the suppression within the Church of unsound doctrine of every description, by reason of which the Church was grievously divided, as well as for the development of her internal resources.

The Reverend J. E. Cox, vicar of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, moved as an amendment:—

"That it is not essential to the free action of the Church of England that synods or convocations should

be permitted to meet periodically to deliberate and decide, as if the right of continued action were inherent in these ecclesiastical bodies by the constitution of the realm: That the independent action of ecclesiastical synods or convocations, without control of the Crown and the legislative authority, is not sanctioned by the laws of England: That it is the prerogative of the Crown to convene both Houses of Convocation and to allow them to deliberate upon such matters as by Royal authority may be committed to them (where occasion may arise); but that it is equally the right of the Crown, for the peace of the Church, and the preservation of the truth of Christ's gospel, and the spiritual liberties of the whole body of the Church, that convocations should not be permitted to become the arena of party discussion, as they have heretofore been, and as they would undoubtedly again become, the great injury of our holy religion, were such assemblies allowed to meet from time to time and deliberate as an ecclesiastical Parliament: That in the present agitated state of the Church it could not conduce to peace, unity, or concord, were the Houses of Convocation to be permitted to discuss any question of the faith or discipline of the Church of England as already settled by the Articles and Formularies."

He denied that the Papal aggression was owing to the crippled state of the Church. In his opinion it was owing to the Oxford movement. The extremes to which that movement had carried some had misled the Bishop of Rome into the notion that England was ready to throw herself at his feet.

After a series of explanations and recriminations the amendment was put to the meeting, and, on a show of hands, only thirty-six were held up in favour of it. It was, therefore, declared lost by a large majority.

The Address to her Majesty was then carried almost unanimously, amidst loud cheers.

THE SOUTHWARK MEETING.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Southwark was held on Tuesday, at noon, at the Town-hall, pursuant to a requisition to the High Bailiff, very numerously and respectfully signed by electors and householders of the borough, to take into consideration the propriety of memorializing the Queen, and to petition Parliament against the recent aggression of the Pope of Rome. The High Bailiff, who was in the chair, charged the Catholics with having used the increased influence and freedom granted to them "to make an onslaught upon our Queen and our clergy."

Mr. Apsley Pellatt proposed the first resolution, which expressed the opinion of the meeting that the bull of the Pope, by which he had parcelled out this kingdom into dioceses, to be governed by a so-called Archbishop of Westminster and other Popish Bishops, was an insolent attack on the civil and religious liberties of the country, and an invasion of the rights of the throne, which ought to be met with the most unyielding opposition. That the Romanists were endeavouring to introduce the canon law, which was adverse to the spirit of the British constitution and its genius. Endowments to the Romish faith were then deprecated, and the resolution concluded with the recommendation of a measure to repeal the grant to Maynooth.

Mr. W. Vickers, in seconding the resolution, said the Queen had not yet been told with sufficient plainness what the people wished her to do. The people of Southwark, however, as plain-spoken men of business, knew what they wanted, and what they would not be satisfied without. They desired that the canon law should be prohibited in this country, and that it should be declared high treason in any person to attempt to put it into execution. (Applause and hissing.)

The Chairman read the following letter from Sir William Molesworth, dated Paris, January 12, addressed to his friend Dr. Black:—

"I got your letter last night. I wish I had had earlier information of the intended meeting in Southwark, for I would have arranged our departure so as to be in London in time for it. I should much like to hear the opinions of my constituents, and to express to them my opinion on the subject of papal aggression. For the latter purpose I write the following short statement of my opinions, which (if you receive it in time) I wish you would cause to be read to the meeting. I consider the act of Pius IX. in bestowing territorial titles on Dr. Wiseman to be a foolish and impudent proceeding. But however much I may blame the act, I cannot approve of the contumely and abuse which in consequence of it has been cast upon our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects and their religion, nor could I on account of it consent in any way to depart from that wise policy which during the last five-and-twenty years has been pursued with regard to Ireland. Therefore, in the next session of Parliament, if there should be proposed any bill of pains and penalties against Roman Catholics, or any other measure in opposition to the principles of religious liberty and equality, I must oppose it. I must observe that it is in times of difficulty and popular excitement, that great principles ought to be maintained, asserted, and vindicated by those who believe in them. I would, therefore, recommend my constituents that, in accordance with the principles of religious liberty and equality (which were the true principles of the Reformation), every man ought to be entitled to adopt the religious faith which he prefers, and to propagate it to the best of his abilities;—that the state ought to interfere as little as possible in religious

matters, and that every sect ought to be permitted to manage its spiritual concerns in the manner which it considers best. From these principles I cannot consent in any way to depart, however much I may condemn the conduct of the weak and vacillating prince whose grievous mismanagement of the papal states I have lately witnessed—however much I may admit that this attempt to create English titles of honour and dignity is an invasion of the prerogative of our Sovereign and an insult to the British nation—however much I may be inclined to avenge that insult. In a short time Parliament will assemble. Her Majesty's Ministers will state the course which they wish to pursue in this matter, and then I shall be able to determine whether I can, consistently with the principles which I have laid down, give them my support. In conclusion, let me earnestly deprecate all expressions of religious bigotry, intolerance, and animosity; and let me impress upon the minds of my constituents, that however blameable may have been the conduct of Pius IX., no blame can on that account be justly cast upon our Roman Catholic fellow subjects.—Believe me, &c., ever yours truly, "WILLIAM MOLESWORTH."

(Cheers for Sir William Molesworth.)

Mr. Thwaites proposed an amendment, condemning the Papal Bull, pronouncing it alike impolitic and unsafe that the state should continue to cherish by endowments the Roman Catholic or any other faith, and calling upon Lord John Russell "to abolish all endowments of religion out of the public purse."

A very irregular discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. Alderman Humphrey, M.P., spoke against the amendment. The chairman ultimately put the amendment, which was lost. He then put the resolution, which was carried amidst cheers and hisses, as was also another resolution against Puseyism. Before the meeting terminated "God save the Queen" was struck up by some person, and the great body of the meeting responded to the appeal by singing the anthem in chorus.

PROTESTANTISM AND POPERY.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has addressed a letter of advice to the clergy of his diocese, in reference to the recent Papal movement. He does not seem to think that the "universal burst of indignation" will be sufficient to withstand the encroachments of Popery:—

"The probable result will be that the Papists will alter their plan of operations, but not abandon their pretensions. The anticipated measures of the Legislature, though they may reflect the sentiments of the country, cannot be expected to do much more than protect our Sovereign from similar affronts, and teach the enemies of our Church greater caution and a less presumptuous tone. But the emissaries of Rome will redouble their diligence in two directions; first, they will work on the imaginations of the young and enthusiastic; and, secondly, will enlist in their ranks the ignorant multitudes of our population, whom the circumstances of the age, by congregating in dense masses, have left destitute of adequate spiritual instruction from our present parochial system."

"All our protestations, therefore, against Papal aggression will have been made in vain, unless we defend those who are exposed to the machinations of the enemy by the practicable method—an extension of the influence of our Church, and the diffusion of Scriptural knowledge among the benighted parts of the population. The present temper of the country seems to hold out a peculiarly favourable opportunity for effecting a great increase of Church extension; indeed, we should neglect the means which Providence has placed within our reach, were we not to endeavour to turn the feeling which has shown itself with such unexampled unanimity into that direction."

"Actuated by similar sentiments, a committee of influential churchmen has been established in London for the purpose of collecting and employing a Reformation Memorial Fund, to be employed in obtaining increased means of spiritual instruction where it is needed throughout the land, and I now request you and all my clergy to preach a sermon on such Sunday as may appear to you most expedient, and cause a collection to be made for this object."

The Bishop of Durham has addressed a letter to the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne, in which he calls upon the clergy to instruct the people upon the discriminating doctrines and relative merits of Popery and Protestantism. Among the leading errors of Popery he places—mariolatry, the doctrine of purgatory, the grant of indulgences, the enforcing of celibacy, and, lastly, the confessional, which he considers the most dangerous of all. He is of opinion that

"It may be necessary to provide some restrictions upon the introduction and circulation of Papal Bulls in this island; and to prohibit the assumption of episcopal titles conferred by Rome, and deriving the name from any place in this country. It may also be desirable to forbid the existence of monastic institutions, strictly so called; nor can the residence of any Jesuit appear otherwise than injurious among Scotch and English Protestants. That order is well known to have shown itself so dangerous that it was suppressed by Clement XIV. in 1773, with the approbation of all wise and good men."

The secession from the Church of England of Mr. Francis R. Ward, son of Mr. Alderman Ward, of Bristol, and a member of the eminent legal firm of Osbornes, Wards, and Co., of that city, who, with his lady, were last week received into the Roman Catholic Church, has been followed by that of the Reverend J. H. Woodward,

incumbent of the large and populous parish of St. James, Bristol, who has intimated his intention of immediately placing his resignation of that living in the hands of the bishop. He has for some time been a Puseyite, and not long since Dr. Pusey preached two sermons in his church in opposition to an intimation by the bishop that the proceeding did not meet with his approbation. One of the reverend incumbent's curates preceded him in the march to Rome.

The *Guardian* states that Mr. Bennett is engaged in winding up the accounts in connection with his charitable institutions, and may be expected to complete his resignation before the end of this week. He has taken no part in any of the services since the publication of his correspondence with the Bishop of London. The altar-cloths and other decorations of the chancels of the churches of St. Paul's and St. Barnabas, which were removed, have been restored. The choral services have, "for the present," says the *Guardian*, been done away with.

The *Leeds Mercury* states that the two curates of St. Saviour's, Leeds, Mr. Cooke and Mr. Beckett, complain of having been unjustly treated by the Bishop of Ripon in the proceedings taken against them. They deny that the charges on which they are removed from office have been proved; they avow they preach the doctrines alleged against them, but contend they are the doctrines of the Church of England, and desire to have the question settled by an appeal to the Ecclesiastical Courts. The initiatory steps for having this test applied must be taken by the Bishop, as the curates have no right to appeal against his decision.

The *Ami de la Religion* announces that "the Holy Father has just given another proof of the independence of the spiritual power, by establishing an Episcopal See in Ireland. The diocese of Cloyne and Ross has been divided in two, and Pius IX. has named a Bishop to the new diocese.

It is reported that the Bishop of Oxford has issued an inhibition against Dr. Pusey's preaching in his diocese.

—*Church and State Gazette.*

THE ENGLISH AT ROME.

According to all accounts the English nobility and gentry are making some sensation at Rome by the readiness with which they renounce the errors of the Church of England and embrace those of the Church of Rome. On New Year's-day Lord Campden, son of the Earl of Gainsborough, and Lady Campden made a public recantation of Protestantism, and were received into the Roman Catholic Church. Lord and Lady Feilding were present, as well as several other persons who have preceded or followed their example. Rome is said to be crowded with English converts from every rank in society, and the Roman nobility vie with each other in paying them the most marked attention. In all public ceremonies they obtain the best places, and the Pope and the Cardinals never fail to notice them in public.

New Year's evening was distinguished by one of the most splendid fetes ever given at Rome. The Prince Cardinal Altieri, President of Rome, and Comarca, opened his magnificent palace in the Piazza del Jesu. Every person of consideration, foreign and native, was invited, and the numerous salons were resplendent with beauty and diamonds. Among the ladies most distinguished for personal appearance and brilliant costumes was the Princess Torlonia, who was literally one blaze of jewels, many of which were said to have once belonged to the shrine of our Lady of Loretto. A diadem composed of brilliants and pearls eclipsed everything in the way of ornament present, and it is said to be not only one of the most gorgeous, but the most costly parure belonging to any private person in Europe. The next personage, who divided general attention with Madame Torlonia, was the Princess Doria, daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury. On this occasion she produced, from caskets where they had long been hidden, the costly heirlooms of the Pamphilj family. The value of these jewels is almost inestimable, not only on account of their intrinsic worth, but their historical association, as many of them are known to have belonged to the celebrated Donna Olimpia (said to be daughter of Pope Innocent XI.), and are recognized in Velasquez's portrait of that lady. The Princess Borghese (a Rocheboncauld) was likewise splendidly attired. The Princess Altieri, who did the honours for her relative the Cardinal, was also a star of the first magnitude. Her diamonds, in number and value, were scarcely surpassed by those abovenamed. The foreign circle was completed by all the diplomatic corps and their ladies, and by the French General Commander-in-Chief and his staff. The fete is described as one of the most remarkable ever given at Rome.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE ASSEMBLY.

The dismissal of General Changarnier, and the breaking up of that union between the superior command of the national guards of the Seine and of the army of the first division, which made his power so formidable, has not been followed by any of those alarming results which were threatened. The organs of the majority prophesied that such a measure would be the signal for civil war between the President and the Assembly, and hinted that the effect would only be to lodge the present inmate of the Elysée at Vincennes. Instead of that, Paris has been

more tranquil than usual, and nobody supposes that now there is the slightest ground for alarm.

The formation of the new Ministry and the dismissal of General Changarnier caused much excitement in the Assembly. After much discussion, on Saturday, M. de Remusat proposed that the Assembly should retire to its bureaux in order to appoint a committee, specially charged to report and propose some measure or resolution adapted to the new state of affairs. The new Ministry ineffectually opposed this motion; and, as every fraction of the Chamber not positively friendly to the President's Government concurred in the desire to form this committee, which, in fact, pledged themselves and the House to nothing at all, it was carried by a majority of 57 in a House of 603 members present. The composition of the committee, which chose the Duc de Broglie for president, and M. Lanjuinais, a member of the *tiers partie* for secretary, showed that it was hostile to the Government; but as, with the exception of MM. Baze and Nettement, who have always distinguished themselves by their vehement opposition to the Government of the President, the committee was in general composed of moderate men, it was felt that no extreme measures would be recommended. The first step of the committee was to demand the communication of the *procès-verbaux* of the committee of permanence. Not only did the Government call upon the house to comply with this request, but M. Baroche challenged their publication.

On Tuesday the important documents were published. The organs of the Government congratulated their party that they brought to light no new charge against the powers that be; while the Opposition papers rejoiced to find that they fully confirmed all the charges made at the time, and contradicted by the Government papers, with respect to the champagne and sausages distributed at Satory, the Bonapartist proceedings of the Society of the Dix Décembre, and the dismissal of General Neu-mayer, because he discouraged the cries of "Vive l'Empereur!"

The committee presented their report to the Assembly on Tuesday evening. They had maturely examined the proposition of M. Remusat, and the *procès-verbaux* of the Permanent Committee, and had not thought that the responsibility of the events which were recited in them should be visited on a higher authority than the Ministers. That opinion was confirmed by the perusal of the *procès-verbaux* and the explanations given to the Committee by the Ministers of the Interior and of War. It was evident to all that the Government had long endeavoured to excite doubts in the country as to the stability of the present state of things, in order to bring about the restoration of an Imperial régime. Seditious cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" had been uttered with impunity. The general who refused to sanction that cry was superseded in his command. The Ministerial press violently attacked the National Assembly, to destroy its moral authority. It was proved that those cries were encouraged and excited by agents of the Government. M. Baroche denied the charge, and opposed his own testimony to that of the Permanent Committee, although he only assisted at one of the four reviews which took place at Satory. The Minister, on being asked why he permitted the Government press to attack the Assembly, replied that he had no journals in his pay; and to show his impartiality he told the committee that he had sent for the chief editors of those papers, and declared to them that, if they continued their attacks against the Legislative Assembly, he would deprive them of the right of selling in the streets. The Minister added, that the dismissal of General Changarnier and the suppression of his double command had been long decided. Some differences arose in the Cabinet on that subject, and several members having tendered their resignation, they all resolved to resign. The committee had divided. Two members proposed the simple order of the day, seeing nothing in the conduct of the Ministry to justify a blame; three presented a resolution of distrust, not however, on account of the dismissal of General Changarnier, whose position was irregular, and against which they had always protested. Six others declared that they placed no confidence in the Ministry, and another also expressed his distrust, but in different terms. Finally, eight to seven agreed to submit to the Assembly the following resolution:—

"The National Assembly, acknowledging the right of the Executive Power to dispose of military commands, blames the use it made of that right, and declares that the General in Chief of the Army of Paris preserves the title to the confidence which the National Assembly testifies to him in the sitting of the 3rd instant, and passes to the order of the day."

The discussion on the report commenced on Wednesday. The Assembly was exceedingly crowded, and the galleries filled with strangers. The debate has not been very interesting hitherto. M. de Gou-lard thought the committee had gone too far in their resolution. He thought that all parties ought to accept the state of things created by the revolution. M. de Fresnau, on the contrary, took a very gloomy view of the actual state of things created by the con-

stitution, which had lost its value, and ought to be revised. M. Monet argued in favour of the supremacy of the Assembly. If it was not satisfied with Ministers, the latter ought to resign. M. Baroche attacked the report for charging Ministers with a desire to evade responsibility. The Ministry was ready to avow its acceptance of the acts of the President. It was difficult to say how the division will be.

THE DRESDEN CONFERENCES.

Nothing has yet transpired which can justify any positive assertion to what will be the composition of the future Executive Power. It seems very plain, however, that all idea of a central legislature under a popular form has been abandoned, even by the most Democratic States. The utmost that is now expected of the Dresden Conferences is a new configuration and strengthening of the imperfect federal edifice constructed in 1815, whereby an attempt will be made to give strength, vigour, and promptitude of action to the central organ, without in any way trenching upon the Constitutional rights or organization of individual states.

The Committee appointed to deliberate on material interests had held two or three sittings, during which the outline of a system of approach between the South and North has been brought forward; but this in no way indicates any nearer immediate connection than a removal of obstacles to more easy border traffic, and to general and reciprocal admission of certain articles of inland produce and general consumption.

Great attention continues to be shown by the Court to the Plenipotentiaries who, whatever may be the issue of their deliberations, will have no cause to complain of want of amusement and good dinners. The ball at Court on the 8th instant was described by those present as magnificent. Upwards of 600 persons were invited.

FATHER GAVAZZI IN LONDON.

There is now in the metropolis a very remarkable character—Father Gavazzi, the modern Savonarola; the ecclesiastical Mazzini; the religious leader of Young Italy. He has harangued crowded audiences of his countrymen and educated Englishmen at the Princess's Concert-room, in the afternoon of the two last Sundays. A translated abridgement of his orations is furnished by the *Daily News*, with admiring comments. "His varied and impassioned arguments," says the reporter, "were conveyed with a fervour of declamation, and a grace of delivery quite unknown to our clerical speakers. We honestly confess that we have not seen or heard in London, any public orator at all to be compared with this finished and truly classic preacher. We can fully comprehend the effect of his eloquence on the thousands who filled the great square of St. Mark, and the various other public gatherings throughout Italy, when he swayed the fierce Democracy, and roused the energies of the Peninsula. His command of language is most copious, and the variety, as well as appropriate dignity, of his attitudes and intonation truly captivating." He is clad in the black serge habit of a Barnabite monk, and wears on his breast the rude wooden cross of his order.

In his last Sunday's oration he spoke boldly out against the miserable Italian crew, of whom Lord John Russell pretended to be afraid.

"The Popes have brought transalpine hordes down upon us from the outset,—Charles d'Anjou, Norman adventurers, German lansquenets, Spanish cut-throats, the outcasts and refuse of every race have been let loose, by papal intrigue or open invitation, to sack, slay, violate, and plunder among us in the name of Christ, from the days of Manfredi and the murdered Corradino down to those recent deplorable days when that apostate Italian, Mastai, blessed the butchers of Sicily and their king Bonaparte; blessed Oudinot for strangling the Roman Commonwealth with a tricolour rope; and would bless the Prince of Darkness himself for replacing on his head that tiara which I hold was originally planted on the brows of 'Christ's Vicar' (in the bitter derision of his doctrine) by the common enemy of mankind. This monstrous intermarriage between the kingly function and the service of God's altar has more publicly offended the moral sense of the human race as society has progressed and the dark delusions of past centuries been dissipated by the noon day of civilization. To be a good priest is difficult enough to the infirmity of mortals; to understand kingly graft in all its branches is a gift few can boast; to combine both sacerdotal and regal excellence is a perfectly hopeless pretension. Hence, either the priest is merged altogether, and a Julius the Second levels his artillery *in propria persona* on my native Bologna, or the king disappears in the grovelling, idiotic, and timorous devotee, as in the person of Pio Nono. A court, forsooth, is requisite to place the patriarch of Christendom on a level with princes; was a court required to place them on a level with the emperors of Rome? did they not maintain Christianity against 'giants in those days,' and could they not do so now when paltry pygmies sit on European thrones? I protest I have more respect for the grand Lhama of Thibet as a more excusable object of blunt, downright homage, from congenial and kindred barbarians, than for such a grim jumble of *carnifex* and *pontifex* hangman and high priest as the present occupant of the Vatican and the Castle of St. Angelo (the arched causeway connecting

palace and prison has just been rebuilt) presents to the nineteenth century. Must the bark of Peter be rowed by galley slaves? Must the fisherman's ring be the signet to seal death-warrants? Must the functions of Nero be performed by the successor of his supposed victim? They show you in Rome the Mamertine dungeon, where Catiline's confederates were immured; where Jugurtha, Zenobia, and a host of illustrious prisoners were let down. Peter was thrown, they tell you, into that monumental cavity, at the foot of the Capitol, coeval with Tullus Hostilius: and the memory of minor captives is merged in the monopoly of marvel which that circumstance establishes for this prison-hole.

"That Peter was once a prisoner we have warrant in holy writ; that an angel drew him forth to light and liberty we read in the Acts of the Apostles. But where do we gather that he, in his turn, became a gaoler, and kept the keys not of heaven, but of a bridewell? Where is the angel of freedom that is to lead forth to life and light the lofty spirits—the pure souled patriots, the generous and intrepid men whom this abhorred system keeps rotting in the treble-barred lazarhouses that are filled to suffocation with such noble captives throughout the 'Patrimony of Peter,' for so central Italy is ludicrously as well as ignominiously designated. Down to the dust—down to uttermost abyss with this soul-destroying and mind-debasing and infidel-creating system. What a figure does our native country present to the eye of calm intelligence, to the lover of human rights, to the student of Christ's gospel? Away with an imposture that paralyzes while it degrades. Away with the night hat that squats on the breast of Italy, checking the current of its lifeblood, and clogging all the functions of national vitality, hideous as it is oppressive, and clumsy as it is calamitous, incubus and vampire combined in one abominable compound of monstrous deformity."

"His peroration," says the *Daily News*, "was a vigorous onslaught on the late papal attempt to bring England down to the same level of grovelling servitude which the system has established in other countries. He maintained that this scheme was hurried into execution by the underlings of Austria and Russia at Rome. The sympathy Wiseman has manifested in his late pamphlets for the 'unarmed Haynau' was a significant symptom of the tendencies which the new 'mitred phalanx' was expected to foster among the faithful in perfidious Albion. To create a division in the heart of England was an object dear to the despots of the world; but the Father trusted in the good sense and manly bearing of the English nation for the utter discomfiture of this armada of 'invincible' ignorance and unteachable bigotry."

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The exertions of the contractors to complete the building in Hyde-park continue to be carried on with undiminished activity, the number of men employed in the works being not less than 1800. Of these by far the larger number are employed in completing the ground and gallery flooring. The progress which has been made in this portion of the works during the past week has been surprising, and in a few days the whole of the flooring upon the south side of the building will be completed. On the north side, also, considerable progress has been made in laying the framework and permanent flooring. At the north-western extremity of the building, which will be occupied by the machinery in motion, it is not intended to complete the flooring until some portions of the heavier articles have arrived. The glazing of the transept is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and upwards of two hundred feet of it are finished. The iron railings are also fixed along a considerable extent of the cross and longitudinal galleries, and from their light and elegant structure they give a finished and highly ornamental appearance to those portions of the building where they are fixed. It was originally intended to have had a plain upright iron railing; but the contractors have consented, at a considerable loss to themselves, to fit up the present very elegant railings at the same price as was agreed upon for those of a plainer description. So far as the actual work connected with the building is concerned, it will be completed on or before the end of the month. The progress made in the decoration and painting of the interior must of necessity be comparatively slow until after this period. The painting of the transept, however, and some portions of the south side, will be commenced in a few days. The contractors having undertaken to receive and unpack articles intended for exhibition, take charge of the packing cases, fix works, keep in order machinery and models, supply glass cases, stands, and furnish and fit up stalls according to the wishes of the exhibitor, it is obvious that they will not finally leave the building until the Exhibition is over, and a large number of workmen will continue to be employed by them in completing the necessary fittings up to the period of its opening.

Offices have been fitted up by the contractors, for their own occupation and that of their clerks, on the left of the grand entrance on the southern side of the building, where intending exhibitors may obtain all the necessary information with respect to the fitting up of the space definitely allotted to them. Temporary rough boardings are being constructed to indicate the spaces in which it is proposed to separate the productions of the various exhibiting nations one from the other. It has been determined that the

half of the building westward of the transept is to be devoted to the reception of the productions of the United Kingdom and the colonies. In the eastern aisles and galleries will be grouped the materials and manufactures contributed by foreign countries. In determining the positions assigned to them on what may be termed the map of the Exhibition, the executive committee have been guided chiefly by the latitude of the places, but as various causes of alteration may arise previous to their final adjustment, any statement of the order in which it is at present proposed to arrange them would be premature. There is no doubt, however, but that there will be "ample room and verge enough for all." Permission has at length been obtained from the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to remove one of the trees near the grand entrance, the preservation of which was owing to the persevering exertions of Colonel Sibthorpe.

The Duchess of Cambridge, the Duke of Cambridge, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg, and the Princess Mary visited the building on Monday. Amongst the visitors who inspected the building last week were the Duke of Devonshire, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Bishop of London, Earl of Aberdeen, Earl Granville, Viscount Canning, Prince Bariatienski, and Sir E. Codrington.

THE NEW MANCHESTER EDUCATION SCHEME.

Sir John Kaye Shuttleworth has addressed a letter to the *Manchester Guardian* expressing his general approval of the new educational scheme, to which we adverted last week. The *Times* of Thursday also declares strongly in favour of it, and Mr. Joseph Kaye, whose late work on *The Social Condition of England* entitles his opinion to some weight with the friends of education, speaks of it in highly favourable terms. In a letter to the *Morning Chronicle*, after giving an outline of the proposed plan, he concludes by saying:—

"It is a very great event that religious antipathies should have so much decreased in Manchester, and that religious charity should have so much increased, as to render even the proposal of such a scheme possible. It will be a still greater event if the inhabitants of that wealthy city are able to succeed in effecting their object.

"If they do, the question of national education will be in reality settled in England, as it will be shown what is possible, even in a town divided into so many different religious sects as Manchester, when people are only intelligent enough to perceive the necessity.

"It will be a remarkable thing if the active merchants and manufacturers of the north, so overwhelmed as they necessarily are by their vast commercial undertakings, should have the honour of solving the education question. It will add another leaf to the laurels of Manchester.

"The inhabitants of that city were principally instrumental in breaking off the shackles from the enormous commerce of our empire. They are now completing a stupendous work, in order to convey to the city an unlimited supply of fresh water. They have made the town one of the cleanest and best lighted of any of the empire. They have newly-completed a great free library for the poor, and they are just finishing one of the most perfect and commodious hospitals in the kingdom.

"I hope, Sir, that in a few months we may be able to add to all this that they have obtained for themselves one of the best working schemes of public education that the world has yet seen."

THE PARLIAMENTARY AND FINANCIAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

The second annual report of the Council of the National Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association has just been published. It seems that the large pecuniary resources asked by the conference of April last have not been accorded. Failure in this has, to some extent, checked the operations of the society, and necessarily compelled the Council to adopt measures of a less extended character, and to follow a course of action more in accordance with their means than with their wishes. The subscriptions received during the year 1850 exceed the amount received during 1849 by the sum of £542 19s., whilst the subscriptions received for the year 1850 exceed the amount received for 1848 by the sum of £1500 19s. 3d. The expenditure in 1849 amounted to £1911 4s. 5d., whilst the subscriptions received for that year were only £1559 19s.; so that the Council had anticipated the income of the Association for the following year to the extent of £351 5s. 5d. But the expenditure in the past year (1850) having amounted to £2782 3s. 1d., whilst the receipts for that period having amounted to £3060 18s. 3d., shows that the actual income for 1850 has exceeded the expenditure by £278 15s. 2d. The labours of the Association—gratuitous, with the exception of the travelling expenses—have been extensive and incessant. The number of public meetings which they have held during the last twelve months amounts to 223—124 of which have been in London and the suburbs, including two aggregate meetings, seven monthly soirees, and three borough soirees—and 99 in the provinces. These meetings have been invariably attended by one or more of the members of the Association, and its principles and objects have been explained and enforced.

At the same time the Council have circulated upwards of 150,000 addresses, tracts, pamphlets, and other papers. For the coming year the Council propose an active agitation in the metropolis, by means of monthly soirees, at which addresses will be delivered, at the London Tavern. The first address will be given by the veteran leader of Reform, Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., on Monday, the 3rd of February; the second by Mr. W. J. Fox, M.P., on the 10th of March; who will be followed by Mr. C. J. Bunting, the Norwich operative; Mr. Edward Mall; Mr. George Thompson, M.P.; Sir J. Walmsley, M.P.; Messrs. Henry Vincent, T. J. Serle, R. J. Slack, W. T. Haly, and others.

PUBLIC MEETING AT JOHN-STREET.

On Tuesday evening the New Chartist Executive held their first public meeting at John-street.

Mr. O'Connor moved the first resolution, declaring the indispensability of the Charter as a means of purifying the House of Commons. He stated what was certainly new to his hearers, as it will be to the public, that during the Convention of 1839, the Government offered him a judgeship if he abandoned the Charter, and that with his usual patriotism he spurned the offer.

Mr. G. J. Holyoake seconded the resolution, and endeavoured to show that the power that must win the Charter was to be created by establishing unity within their ranks, and commanding respect out of it. He explained the simple democratic principles by which this result was to be achieved; namely, submission to majorities, and deliberation for the entire people. Until political bodies could practise obedience to their own authorities, they can have no protection against the feuds of private interest and personal ambition. Unless they were also able to comprehend that Democracy was a contest where patience, as well as courage, was required to win, they would make no substantial progress. If they were to have an agitation that could be relied on, they must promptly and effectually support it. He, as one of their Executive, must not be expected to come and personally solicit funds. If their agitation was not worth supporting, it was not worth having; and to be impressive it must have dignity. A vote of confidence was next agreed to, and addressed from Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Harney, Ernest Jones, and Mr. O'Brien followed. Mr. O'Brien was very witty and, as usual, very long. The meeting was very crowded and successful.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION

Held their usual weekly meeting at their office, 14, Southampton-street, Strand, on Wednesday evening last. Present—Messrs. Arnott, Grassby, Harney, Milne, O'Connor, and Reynolds. Mr. Jones received leave of absence to deliver his lecture at Cowper-street. Mr. Holyoake was absent at the John-street institution, of which he is president. Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds presided. Correspondence of a highly encouraging and progressive tendency was received from the councils of the following localities, viz.:—Bermundsey, Bradford, Burnley, Cheltenham, Coventry, Dundee, Exeter, Greenwich, Hastings, Hebden Bridge, Leicester, Limehouse, Merthyr Tydfil, Paisley, Pudsey, Rotherham, Royton, Stalybridge, Sutton-in-Ashfield, and Warrington; also from Liverpool and Stockport. On the motion of Messrs. O'Connor and Harney it was unanimously agreed—"That for the future the votes of the committee be published, with the names." The sub-committee appointed to correct the list of places to send delegates to the National Convention submitted their report, which we shall give next week. It was unanimously adopted.

The secretary reported that the Literary Institution, Carlisle-street, Portman-market, had been engaged for a public meeting on Thursday evening, January 23rd; that the British School-room, Cowper-street, City-road, had also been engaged for a similar purpose on Monday evening, January 27th; that the United Councils of the Tower Hamlets met on Sunday last at the Woodman Tavern, Waterlooville, at which meeting about forty Councilmen attended; and that, after transacting their local business, it was unanimously agreed that a Ball and Concert be held on behalf of the Executive Fund; and a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Stubbs, Westoby, Newley, Reynolds, Verdelle, Waldron, and Alsford, were appointed to carry out the same.

Mr. Collet, the secretary to the Committee for the Abolition of Taxes on Knowledge, attended as a deputation from the said Committee, to solicit the co-operation and assistance of the Executive in this important object. Mr. Collet, at great length, stated what the Committee had done in order to effect the removal of the Literary obstacles to progression; and trusted that they should have the support of all true Democrats in their endeavours to break down these barriers to the spread of intelligence.

On the motion of Messrs. Arnott and Harney, it was unanimously agreed—"That Mr. Collet be received as the deputation from the Committee, with

thanks; and that this Committee guarantee thereto all the assistance in their power."

Mr. Collet was requested to supply the secretary with a quantity of petitions for circulation, and the Committee adjourned to Wednesday evening, the 22nd of January.

Nominations received to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. W. Davis in the Executive Committee of the National Charter Association:—Thornton Hunt, Robert Le Blond, Ruffy Ridley, Thomas Martin Wheeler, Edmund Stallwood, Edward Miles, and W. J. Linton.

The following from Mr. W. J. Linton occurs in a letter to a friend relative to his nomination, addressed from Miteside, Cumberland:—"If any of my fellow-Chartists think I can serve them while I reside here, and only occasionally visit London, they may elect me to any office they please, and be sure of my attention to it."

All persons are requested to vote for one candidate from the above list; and, where localities are formed, let them send their votes to the sub-secretary of the locality, who is desired to transmit such votes, with the members voting for each candidate, to the general secretary; but, where localities do not exist, the votes can be sent by letter, addressed to John Arnott, 14, Southampton-street, Strand, on or before Wednesday, January 29. All votes received after that date will be null and void.

Moneys received during the week, £12 7s. 1d.

Signed, on behalf of the Committee,
JOHN ARNOTT, General Secretary.

METROPOLITAN DELEGATE COUNCIL.

At a meeting held at 26, Golden-lane, City, on the 12th instant (Mr. John Arnott in the chair), after motions by Messrs. Blake, Bligh, Ferdinand, and Vickers, it was confirmed that the Council meet weekly as usual. Six shillings were paid to the Council as subscriptions. A vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. E. Stallwood for his past services in this Council. It was then agreed:—"That each member of this Council request of their constituents to form into tract societies, each member of the same to pay one halfpenny per week for the purpose of raising a fund, this fund to be sent to the executive committee the 1st of each month, for the purpose of more successfully establishing the circulation of the Political Tracts." It was also resolved:—"That we, the members of the Metropolitan Delegate Council, are of opinion that the report in the *Northern Star* of the 11th instant, relating to the Manchester meeting of the 4th instant, is not a faithful and bona fide account, and, therefore, we deem it our duty to repudiate the report." We are also of opinion:—"That the leading article in the *Star* of the same date (11th instant) is conceived in a spirit of partiality and injustice, and calculated to produce much injury to the Democratic cause.

Moved by Mr. Ferdinand, and seconded by Mr. Bloomfield:—"That the secretary be authorized to send the reports of this day's Council to the *Leader* and *Reynolds's Newspaper*.

Mr. H. Bloomfield was duly elected as secretary, owing to Mr. W. A. Fletcher's resignation. The best thanks of the Council were given to W. A. Fletcher for his past and energetic services as secretary to this Council.

RAILWAY THRIFT AND RESPONSIBILITY.

After three days' patient enquiry into the circumstances connected with the death of Vincent Ladwick, the night inspector at the Ponder's-end station, on the Eastern Counties Railway, the jury announced that they had agreed upon a verdict of "Manslaughter" against Ronald Baxter, the driver of the engine of the special train. They accompanied this verdict with the following censure on the conduct of the directors:—

"The jury cannot separate without expressing their unanimous opinion that the duties assigned to the deceased, who was killed during their proper performance, were more multifarious than a person in his station of life, and with his emoluments, could reasonably be expected to perform; and that greater precautionary measures, by means of the electric telegraph, might have been adopted. They think it right also to add that the regulations of the Eastern Counties Railway Company appear to require modification, and that punctuality should be more strictly enforced."

Ladwick was killed by a special train coming in contact with a goods train, which he was removing into a siding; and one question for the jury to decide was whether the directors had used all the means in their power to prepare Ladwick for the arrival of a special train on the night in question. On this head we have the following evidence on the part of the night inspector of the telegraph department at Shoreditch:—

"At five minutes to six o'clock on Wednesday morning I received instructions to 'speak' with all the stations between London and Cambridge, informing them that a special train had left Shoreditch, and desiring them to keep the line clear. I first spoke with Tottenham; ten minutes elapsed, however, before I could attract their attention. The next station I communicated with was Ponder's-end. It was then about four minutes

past six o'clock. I continued calling for ten minutes, and, finding no attention was paid me, I called at Waltham, and there also no reply was given for some time. There are some intermediate stations, Lea-bridge, Water-lane, Marsh-lane, and Cheshunt. Each has a telegraphic communication, but it was of no use calling them, as they are supposed to be shut up after dark.

"By the Coroner: He had known instances where he had been unable to get attention at the stations."

No attention was paid to the telegraphic warning at Ponder's-end, because the inspector at that station was unable to attend to it. It appeared, on enquiry, that Ladwick was the only person left in charge of the station between the hours of nine at night and seven in the morning; and that the whole business of shunting trains, managing the signals, attending to the gates of a level crossing, and receiving (or despatching) telegraphic messages, devolved exclusively on him. The inevitable result of such parsimonious conduct on the part of railway directors is that the lives of travellers and also those of their own servants are placed in continual jeopardy. Mr. Richardson, the superintendent of the line, contended that the accident was owing to neglect of a certain rule, according to which, "when the main line is to be used for shunting, hand and percussion signals are to be placed at a distance of at least 600 yards before the obstruction is attempted;" and, he added, "if the deceased had adopted that precaution before he allowed the truck to be passed on to the down line, the probability was that he would not have lost his life." But this was a rule which could not be followed for this simple reason, that Ladwick, owing to his multifarious duties, had not time to run 600 yards with percussion signals, and back again, whenever a train or carriage was to be shunted. It was not the man's carelessness, therefore, which caused the fatal accident. "The real blame," as the *Morning Chronicle* justly remarks, "lies with the wretched parsimony which accumulates incompatible duties on a single functionary, and which expects three or four pounds' worth of weekly labour and vigilance for 22s."

THE TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

The following is the correspondence between the Newspaper Stamp Abolition Committee and the Postmaster-General, to which we have adverted elsewhere:—

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP ABOLITION COMMITTEE TO THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

MY LORD,—It is not usual for a body of persons united together for the purpose of obtaining a change in the laws, to presume to address an Executive department. But in the course of our enquiries as to the actual working of the stamp duty on newspapers we have become aware of the irregularities committed by the Board of Inland Revenue, and as these irregularities involve the Post-office, we feel authorized to depart from usage so far as to memorialize your lordship on the subject.

It can scarcely be necessary to inform your lordship that the 3 and 4 Victoria, cap. 96, permits, but does not enjoin, the Postmaster-General to transmit post free all stamped newspapers, but does not authorize the transmission at a less rate than the letter rate of any printed papers not newspapers, except petitions and parliamentary papers.

It will probably be within your lordship's recollection that when the newspaper stamp was reduced to one penny, the retention of that penny was justified by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the ground of its being an equivalent for free postage. The newspaper act requires that every copy of a newspaper should be stamped, whether intended to go by post or not. Whether it is right that a newspaper not intended for postal circulation should pay postage is a question into which we do not wish at this moment to enter; but it is manifest that all should be treated alike, and that if one class of publications is required to stamp every copy, all should be subject to the same restriction. But a practice is grown up at the Board of Inland Revenue of registering publications as newspapers for the purpose of obtaining for them the benefit of free postage, and of allowing those copies, which are not sent by post, to circulate unstamped. Against this manifest injustice three newspaper proprietors have protested, and the following correspondence has taken place between them and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue:—

Leader Office, 10, Crane-court, Fleet-street, July 3, 1850.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMISSIONERS OF INLAND REVENUE, THE MEMORIAL OF THE UNDERSIGNED,

Showeth,—That your memorialist is editor and one of the proprietors of a registered newspaper entitled the *Leader*. That, according to a return made to the House of Commons on the 19th of February last, fifty-one registered newspapers are permitted to stamp only a portion of their impression. Of these many are according to the schedule in the 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 76, as fully liable to stamp duty as the *Leader*, particularly *Punch*, the *Freeholder*, and the *Household Narrative*. That your memorialist engaged in the enterprise of founding a new journal, in the knowledge that such immunities were allowed, and had no wish to abate advantages enjoyed by others, although under the strict rules of competition the distinction be considered unfair. That the suspension of the Post-office duties on Sunday, however, has materially altered the position of his journal. The free transmission which has been given in return for the penny stamp is now in part withdrawn, and in that

respect the Saturday edition of a newspaper is placed literally on a level with the unstamped publications so far as disadvantages go, while news journals differ materially from other periodicals in the medium of circulation, never passing through booksellers as such; your honourable board will, therefore, perceive the injustice of maintaining the tax.

Your memorialist, therefore, requests that your honourable board will, as a matter of right and justice, place the *Leader* on the same footing as *Punch*, the *Athenaeum*, the *Freeholder*, and the *Household Narrative*, by allowing it to stamp only its country edition, and to circulate unstamped in London.

THORNTON HUNT.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMISSIONERS OF INLAND REVENUE.

The memorial of Charles Bray, of Coventry, showeth, That your memorialist is proprietor of a registered newspaper, called the *Coventry Herald*. That, according to a return made to the House of Commons on the 19th of February last, fifty-one registered newspapers are permitted to stamp only a portion of their impression. That your memorialist, being obliged to stamp every copy of his impression, is thus exposed to unfair competition. Your memorialist, therefore, requests that your honourable board will issue a general order, permitting all registered newspapers to share in the privilege now confined to a favoured number.

A similar letter was sent by Mr. Thomas Allan, of the *Caledonian Mercury*. The following were the answers:—

Inland Revenue, Somerset-house, London,

July 24, 1850.

Sir,—I have laid before the board your memorial, in which you observe that, according to a return made to the House of Commons, certain registered newspapers are permitted to stamp only a portion of their impression, and requesting that that privilege be extended to all registered newspapers. In reply, I am directed to inform you that you are mistaken in supposing that any permission is granted by this board in the cases referred to or any other. The papers you allude to are not newspapers, though registered as such, and the publishers could not be prosecuted for printing a portion, or the whole of their copies, without stamps, to which penalties the publisher of a newspaper, properly so called, would be subject. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS KEEGH.

Mr. Thomas Allan—Mr. Charles Bray.

Inland Revenue, Somerset-house, London,

August 29, 1850.

Sir,—The board have had before them your letter of the 3rd ultimo, requesting that the publication, called the *Leader*, may be placed on the same footing as the other papers mentioned by you, and that the country edition only may be required to be stamped. In reply, I am directed to state that your application is totally inadmissible. I am to add, that there is no analogy between your publication and those to which you refer.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS KEEGH.

To these replies the following rejoinder was sent:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMISSIONERS OF INLAND REVENUE.

Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned newspaper proprietors, having severally memorialized your honourable board for the purpose of obtaining authority to issue a portion of our impressions unstamped, and having received in reply two minutes of your honourable board, dated respectively the 24th of July and the 29th of August last, take the liberty of requesting, for reasons hereinafter specified, that our former demands may be reconsidered.

We conceive that many of the fifty-one registered publications mentioned in the Parliamentary return of the 19th of February last, are to all intents newspapers in virtue of their contents, as they contain not only comments but statements of passing occurrences of a general and political nature. But we would respectfully urge that a newspaper is such in virtue of its registration. An opposite interpretation of the Post-office act is rebuked by a minute of your honourable board, dated May 30, 1850, in reply to a letter from Mr. Scholefield, M.P. for Birmingham, on the subject of the threatened prosecution of the *Freeholder*. It is said:—

"A portion of each publication is printed on stamps, and another without stamps, to which latter proceeding the board object, considering that both in respect of its registration and its contents, it is subject to the newspaper duty."

In this extract the very doctrine is laid down on which our memorials were framed, viz., that a newspaper is such in virtue of its registration.

We are inclined to believe that the relaxation towards those periodicals which were originally put forth as unstamped publications, is productive of considerable augmentation to the revenue, as the publications would not otherwise be sent by post at all. We are far from complaining, therefore, of the relaxation granted to the fifty-one publications, which appears to be justified by many considerations. But on the grounds furnished by your own honourable board, it is seen that no distinction cognizable by the law exists between those publications and our own, which are still denied the same indulgence.

We therefore urge a revision of our claims, and pray that we may be heard by our agent before your honourable board.

THORNTON HUNT, editor and proprietor of the *Leader* 10, Crane-court, Fleet-street.

CHARLES BRAY, proprietor of the *Coventry Herald* and *Observer*, Coventry.

THOMAS ALLAN, proprietor of the *Caledonian Mercury*, Edinburgh.

The following epistle closes the correspondence:—
Inland Revenue, Somerset-house, London,
September 23, 1850.

Sir.—I have laid before the board the representation enclosed in your letter of the 17th instant, signed by you and other proprietors of newspapers, desiring from the board permission to issue a portion of your publication on unstamped paper. In reply I am directed to state that the board have no power whatever to grant to the publisher of any newspaper permission to publish portion of the copies thereof without the stamps, to which they are liable, and you are mistaken in assuming that any permission of the kind has been granted in any instance. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
Mr. Thornton Hunt.

THOMAS KEEGH.

We have, therefore, to complain to your lordship, that about fifty-one publications are in the habit of circulating illegally through the Post-office, so as to injure the regular newspapers, which are thus placed on disadvantageous terms, and deprived of their fair share of a privilege which was originally intended for them alone.

The letter of the law allows us no way of bringing this grievance before your lordship, save that of complaining of the privilege illegally granted to a favoured few, but we should do ourselves injustice if we allowed it to be supposed that we desired the abolition of any privilege enjoyed by any portion of the press. Our object is to draw the attention of your lordship to the present irregularities, in the hope that the Post-office authorities may be induced to adopt a plan for the extension of the privilege of cheap postage to all printed papers, whether registered as newspapers or not, a plan by which the sum may be made up, which might perhaps otherwise be lost to the revenue by the abolition of the compulsory penny stamp.

Considering the Post-office not merely as a source of revenue or a means of communication, but as the only national educational establishment which this country possesses, we venture to hope that your lordship will anxiously consider whether the suggestion we have made cannot be worked out in such a manner as to avoid any financial deficiency, to put an end to the unfair and illegal preference now given to partially-stamped publications, and to give to the people the advantage of an untaxed press. But whatever may be the remedy, we are sure that your lordship will not countenance the violation of the law by the Board of Inland Revenue. This violation of the law has gone so far, that the board no longer venture to enforce their own decrees. In the cases of the *Freeholder* and the *Household Narrative*, two monthly newspapers which are only partially stamped, the board have long since represented to the publisher the illegality of their conduct, but have taken no steps to prevent its continuance. The law is still defied by the publishers, and might in all probability, be as successfully defied by any well-established newspaper in London or the country. Hoping that your lordship will deem it a duty to confer on this subject with her Majesty's Government, we remain, your lordship's obedient servants, The Members of the Newspaper Stamp Abolition Committee.

Signed by their order and in their behalf.

FRANCIS PLACE, Treasurer, Brompton.
J. WATSON, Sub-Treasurer, 3, Queen's Head-passage, Paternoster-row,
J. D. COLLET, Secretary, 15, Essex-street, Strand.
Nov. 13, 1850.

General Post-office, Dec. 9, 1850.

Sir.—The Postmaster-General has had before him the memorial which was transmitted by you on the 13th ultimo, and I have it in command to inform you, that his lordship has no power to judge of or determine the questions therein named.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant,
J. TILLEY, Assistant Secretary.
Francis Place, Esq., Brompton-square.

THE LONDON COMPOSITORS AND THE "MORNING POST."

(From a Correspondent.)

We are extremely sorry to hear that the compositors of the metropolis have been placed in turmoil by an act of aggression towards them on the part of the proprietor of the *Morning Post*. We can bear witness to the respectability and intelligence of compositors generally; and as to the efficiency of those employed on newspapers we have only to appeal to the diurnal broad sheet.

Before noticing this matter we have taken some pains to learn from competent persons the mode in which compositors are paid in London. In bookhouses they are generally employed on piecework—that is, so much per thousand letters, according to the nature of the work. Employment in these houses is very precarious, and few of them average 30s. per week. Twenty-two years ago, with the same prices as are now paid, one of the oldest and most respectable master-printers in London (Mr. Richard Taylor), in a letter to the Editor of the *Times*, stated the average earnings of bookhouse compositors to be not more than 20s. per week; and the precariousness of employment and hurried manner of doing work, have both increased since that time. In some bookhouses, and in most jobbing-houses, where piecework would be advantageous to the compositor, weekly wages are paid: the lowest recognized by the trade being 33s. per week; but the more respectable houses pay 36s.: and for these situations the most efficient workmen are selected. But in these jobbing-houses, &c., whenever they have any common bookwork, they have it done on piecework: thus acknowledging the difficulty for the workman to average the foregoing

sums, which we are certain no one will have the hardihood to say is too much for the mental and bodily labour of a compositor. The compositor in a book-office generally works 10 hours per day for the above weekly wages. If employed all night he receives 2s. 6d. extra for nightwork.

The manner of paying morning-paper compositors is similar to the above. Morning papers used to be got up, till lately, by what are termed full hands and supernumeraries. The full hands were paid £2 8s. for a stipulated amount of work per day: the lowest recognized weekly wages in bookhouses, 33s., with the six half-crowns added for turning night into day, and as some recompense for the total sacrifice of all social enjoyment and domestic comfort which the nature of the employment involves, and the unavoidable extra expense consequent upon morning paper work. If the hour of going to press was four o'clock in the morning, he was expected to begin at four in the evening; if five, five in the evening; but he generally had about two hours for supper. The printer would sometimes require his services during that two hours, for which he was paid, as also for every hour he was employed after the stated press hour. The supernumeraries were paid piecework. They could not have less than 3s. 10d. for their night's work, and might get much more occasionally, as upon heavy-debate nights, &c. The galley (or 3s. 10d. worth of work) is based upon the book scale, putting on the extra price per thousand to make up for the nightwork. The full hands have been dispensed with generally by the printers of morning papers, and four or five time-hands are employed in their stead, who assist the printer, correct editors' proofs, &c. They, of course, are selected for steadiness and efficiency. The supernumeraries do the bulk of the paper, and are all paid piecework, varying in amount according to the requirement of the printer and the ability of the workmen.

The *Morning Post*, for mercantile reasons, has been managed lately very economically, so that the expense of every line has had to be accounted for. Yet Mr. Dickson, the person who has undertaken to produce the paper with thirty-two Scotchmen, says he will save the proprietor £2000 a-year. Therefore it is clear that these men must, in the course of the year, produce £2000's worth more work than they will be paid for. Their engagement is £2 8s. per week, to do as much work as they can, and be in the office as many hours as they may be required. They work in relays—that is, a certain number commence earlier than the others, and leave off earlier, coming back in the forenoon to do the day editions.

Now, even if no aggression had been intended by the proprietor, the manner of carrying out the change has been most obnoxious, the whole of the men being instantly discharged—their length of service and attention to business appearing to have claimed no consideration from the proprietor. It was rumoured that something of the kind was intended, and the manager (Mr. Borthwick) was asked if a companionship had been engaged in Scotland to supplant those employed on the paper. He said that it was not the case; but, if any person offered to do the paper cheaper, such offer might be entertained. He has stated since that it was not for a trifling sum had been made: the saving would be £2000 a-year. But the men were certain of what was going on. Still they continued to work steadily till the last minute, deserving those encomiums of which the manager had been so lavish lately; and when the paper was put to press last Saturday morning, they were told that their services were no longer required.

The *Morning Post* companionship (nearly fifty in number), taken as a body, were very efficient. But on all the old-established daily papers there are old men, some of whom have been employed on the same paper twenty, thirty, and more years. To the credit of the morning paper printers, these men are never discharged: they begin earlier and leave off earlier, and it is so managed that they are kept out of the rush with the active and efficient. This was the case with some on the *Post*. Such persons may, perhaps, never be employed again. They are greatly to be pitied; and not much less so are the men who have supplanted them; for most assuredly, hardy Scots though they be, the more than Egyptian bondage to which they have voluntarily subjected themselves will soon make them knock under, if they have not the discretion at once to withdraw from their injudicious engagement.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

Henry Pelham Fiennes-Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle, died at his residence, Clumber-park, Nottinghamshire, on the afternoon of Sunday, the 12th instant, after a long and painful illness. He was born on the 30th of January, 1785, and succeeded to the family honours as the fourth duke on the death of his father, in 1795. At an early age he was sent to Eton, where he remained for seven years. After having attained the distinctions of that celebrated school, it was thought advisable that he should travel, and he accordingly accompanied a portion of his family to the Continent, where, in consequence of the

troubles which prevailed at that day, he, with his relatives, was detained a prisoner for some years. In 1807, shortly after his return to England, he married Georgiana Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Edward Miller Mundy, of Shipley, in the county of Derby, by whom he had a numerous family.

The chief events of his life were his opposition to Catholic Emancipation and the Reform Bill. In consequence of the odium caused by his strong opposition to the latter measure, Nottingham Castle, which belonged to him, was burned by a mob in October, 1831.

The deceased duke was *custos rotulorum* of Newcastle, steward and keeper of Sherwood Forest and Folewood-park, and high steward of Retford; and he was the patron of eight livings. He was descended from John, Baron Clinton, who lived in the time of Edward I. The ninth Lord Clinton, an eminent naval commander, obtained the earldom of Lincoln from Queen Elizabeth. The ninth earl inherited the dukedom of Newcastle under a special remainder, from his wife's uncle, the first duke, and he assumed the name of Pelham on succeeding to the title.

The late duke is succeeded by his son, the Right Honourable Henry Pelham Clinton, Earl of Lincoln; and a vacancy is thus created in the Parliamentary representation of the Falkirk district of boroughs.

ALLEGED CALUMNY AND INTRIGUE.

The following correspondence relating to a narrative of "Calumny and Intrigue," which we copied into our paper of the 4th instant from the *Daily News*, we insert, in justice to the party chiefly concerned. We need hardly add that our columns will be open to a counter-statement.

Brunswick Hotel, Hanover-square, Jan. 16, 1851.

Sir.—Certain infamous statements, copied from the *Daily News*, appeared in your paper on the 4th instant.

The *Daily News* has inserted my contradiction of those statements; but a paragraph in the last *United Service Gazette* has since been brought to my knowledge, in which Captain Yelverton's name is mentioned, and I feel called upon to give publicity to the enclosed. If you feel any hesitation in inserting my letters to Mr. Roebuck, I beg you will publish them as an advertisement. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Wm. DORIA.

On the 24th of September, while I was staying in Captain Yelverton's house, a quarrel took place between us. After an angry discussion he left the house. Shortly afterwards I took my departure for London, leaving word where I might be found. On the 25th Mr. Roebuck called on me at the Brunswick Hotel, and delivered me a challenge from Captain Yelverton. I immediately sought for a friend to act for me in the matter. On the 26th, before I could find one, the challenge was withdrawn, Mr. Roebuck insisting that no hostile meeting should take place, as it would only lead to a public exposure, which ought to be avoided; and he suggested certain stipulations, to which I reluctantly assented, in order to meet his desire of avoiding publicity, and on the 27th the matter was concluded, in the presence of my brother who acted for me at Mr. Roebuck's request.

To my great astonishment, on the 4th of October I received the copy of a letter written by Captain Yelverton, on the 30th of September, to a gentleman in his neighbourhood, stating that he had thrashed me and kicked me out of his house, and that I refused to fight him. On that same day my brother, with whom I was staying in the neighbourhood of Stamford, wrote to Mr. Roebuck to complain of the falsehoods put forth by Captain Yelverton, and to demand that they should be withdrawn. Receiving no answer, he wrote again on the 8th to the same effect. On the 9th I received a most offensive letter from Mr. Roebuck, reiterating the falsehoods published by Captain Yelverton. I immediately renewed my search for a friend to act for me in the matter, and on the 14th proceeded to Lyndhurst with Mr. Girdlestone, and called upon Capt. Yelverton to retract or give me satisfaction; he at once referred me to Mr. Roebuck, with whom Mr. Girdlestone had an interview. Mr. Roebuck refused to allow Capt. Yelverton either to retract or meet me. The stipulations entered into originally with Mr. Roebuck for the purpose of avoiding publicity, had sealed my mouth as to all detail, even had motives of delicacy not prevented me entirely from taking any further steps beyond giving a written denial to the falsehoods circulated by Captain Yelverton and Mr. Roebuck. This I did in a letter to the same gentleman to whom Captain Yelverton's letter of the 30th of September had been addressed. There the matter rested and would have done so but for the paragraphs which appeared in the *Daily News* of the 1st and 2nd instant, and which only came to my knowledge on the 7th while I was staying on a visit in Scotland. I immediately hastened up to London, and proceeded to Brockenhurst with Mr. Girdlestone, who was the bearer of a letter from me to Mr. Roebuck. Mr. Girdlestone had an interview with Mr. Roebuck, who declined either to contradict the statement that had appeared in the public prints, or to name a friend to settle the matter. Mr. Girdlestone intimated that he should not allow me to be dealt with any longer in this manner, and that publicity was the only course now left to me. Upon which Mr. Roebuck threatened he would take the law, and have both my friend and myself up for libel. As soon as I learnt the result of the interview I wrote a second note to Mr. Roebuck, and returned to London with Mr. Girdlestone. I then wrote the letter to the *Daily News* which appeared in the paper on the 14th instant. On the 16th my attention was drawn to a paragraph in the *United Service Gazette* respecting the falsehoods originally published in the *Daily News*, and

mentioning Captain Yelverton by name. I had hitherto abstained from making any public statement beyond a simple contradiction of the falsehoods which originally circulated by Captain Yelverton and Mr. Roebeck, have eventually found their way into public print. But, as Captain Yelverton's name is now before the public, I feel bound to make known such facts as I am at liberty to disclose, and which will suffice, I trust, to show what value is to be attached to the calumnious aspersions attempted to be cast on me by a correspondent who dares not give his name.

WM. DORIA.

Attaché to H.B.M. Embassy, Constantinople.

P.S. I subjoin Mr. Girdlestone's confirmation of the above.

Jan. 16, 1851.

My dear Doria,—I have carefully perused your statement, which I return enclosed, and have no hesitation in giving my testimony to its truth.

I remain, yours truly,

T. M. GIRDLESTONE.

W. Doria, Esq., Brunswick Hotel.

THE UCKFIELD BURGLARY.

Six of the men who are charged with having committed the burglary at Dowland-house, near Uckfield, were examined at Tunbridge, on Saturday. They gave their names as J. Hamilton, John Smith, James Smith, T. Morgan, W. Hillyer, and J. Carter. Elizabeth Oliver was also charged on suspicion of having some of the stolen property in her possession. The chief witness was Thomas Wood, butler to the Misses Farncombe, who were so ill that they could not attend to give their evidence. He said:—

"On Thursday morning, the 2nd instant, about half-past three o'clock, I was alarmed by hearing some persons trying my bedroom door. My room is at the back of the house at the top of the steps reaching from the scullery. I challenged them, and said, 'Who's there?' and not receiving any answer, I jumped out of bed and seized my gun. Almost at the same moment the men (five) rushed into my room by bursting in the door, and on seeing me one said, 'Here is the—.' I see the man who made that remark now before me; it is the prisoner Morgan. I recognize the prisoner Carter as being one of the five men. I don't particularly recognize any of the others; they all had masks on. Morgan had a red mask over his face, and Carter a white one and a woman's straw bonnet on his head. The others had masks on; one wore a black one. The black mask produced is similar to the black mask which one of the men wore. On their entering the room Morgan struck me at with a pistol. He hit me on the shoulder, and said, 'D—n your eyes be still, and don't make a noise.' He ordered me to get back into bed. The others were threatening me. I saw one of them take my watch from the table close to the bed, and also a gold watch key. Carter said, 'Where are your keys?' I hesitated, and he said, 'Where are your trousers?' I hurried them to him, when he said, 'Get out of bed and get them,' and threw them at my head. He got the keys, and 7s. 6d., which was in my pocket. He went to my writing desk, and I noticed another breaking open a box. I said, 'Don't break the box open, you have got the key there.' He replied, 'We don't come to unlock locks, we have a different way of doing it.' He then threatened to blow out my brains if I did not remain silent. At that time I heard the alarm bell ringing in one of the upper apartments; two of the men instantly ran up stairs to silence it. It was ringing in the servants' room. A third man went outside the door to keep watch. After a short pause one of the men came back, and asked me where a door close to my room led. I informed him that it led to a dressing-room attached to one of the ladies' apartments. They broke open the door, and shortly afterwards I heard the ladies (Misses Farncombe) scream. I instantly appealed to Carter not to allow his companions to ill-treat the ladies in any way. Carter left me for a few minutes. While he was with me I had some conversation with him, and I observed that he looked something like a woman with the bonnet on. There was a good deal of talking between them, and I recollect their voices and general appearance. I am quite sure about Carter and Morgan. While Carter was keeping watch over me, one of the men came and grasped me by the collar and dragged me out of bed. I asked him what he wanted me for. He replied, 'Show me where the plate is.' He dragged me down stairs. I asked him to allow me to put on my shoes. He answered, 'I don't wear any shoes, and why should you?' He led me into the kitchen, and when I got there I heard the rattling of plate. Others of the gang had already got into the pantry. I said, 'You might as well let me go back; your companions have found the plate, I hear.' He dragged me up to the pantry door, and I there saw two men. They had made a hole in the door. One of the men was holding out an apron while the other was filling it with plate. The apron produced is the same they were using, it is mine. One of the men held up two plated decanter stands and asked me whether they were silver. I said, 'Judge for yourselves.' The same party who led me down, and who I cannot recognize to be one of the prisoners, then took me back to my bedroom, leaving Carter with me for about half an hour. Four of the men then came to me. One addressed me and said, 'B— your eyes, if you move from the bed, or make any noise, or any one in the house, we will blow their b— brains out.' Carter had my gun under his arm, and a pistol in one hand and a lighted candle in the other. The men ordered him to keep watch over me for an hour, and one of them spoke to Carter and said, 'You keep that gun and brace, and if anyone moves for an hour and a half blow their brains out.' Carter replied, 'If they do, d— my eyes, I'll pop them.' They then left my room, Carter and all, and I saw no more of them at the time. I only saw five. I heard them below

as if quarrelling and complaining of some of them not being ready to leave. The clock struck five just as I heard the last of them. In the course of ten minutes I got up and hastened to the police-station at Uckfield."

Other witnesses were examined whose evidence went to prove the guilt of the prisoners, but the magistrates decided upon remanding them till the following Saturday.

INCENDIARISM AND FIRE INSURANCE.

Some years ago, during a period of agricultural distress, want of employment, and low wages, when "Swing" had commenced his labours in the rural districts, some of the London Insurance offices addressed circulars to the provincial newspapers requesting them to suppress all notice of incendiary fires, as the publication of them only served to fan the flame of popular discontent. This was short-sighted policy on the part of the Insurance directors. Incendiary must always be viewed as one of the outward symptoms of a deep-seated social malady, and it ought to be cured by removing the cause, not by vainly trying to keep it from public observation. A wiser course would be for the London offices to fix a much higher rate on the insurance of farm property. This would force the farmers to adopt another course than the one which most of them have lately taken. In that case they would begin to see that it is better to save something out of the rent than out of the wages, seeing that the latter course tends to make the starving labourer a pauper, a poacher, or perhaps an incendiary.

The following article from the last number of the *Post Magazine* will show that the Fire Insurance Companies are beginning to adopt the course we recommend, and certainly it was high time for them to do so:—

"From all parts of the country the most alarming reports reach us of the prevalence of incendiaryism. A correspondent from Thame, in Buckinghamshire, writes, 'Incendiaryism is terribly on the increase in our neighbourhood.' In Hertfordshire, on the estate of Mr. Dickinson, the extensive paper manufacturer at Hemel Hempstead, a very severe loss has been incurred by an incendiary fire; and letters from the same locality inform us that this terrible crime is increasing in that district. A gentleman, who was last week in the village of Thrapston, between Northampton and Peterborough, reports that incendiary fires were of almost nightly occurrence, and the engines constantly driving about the country. Even the metropolitan counties are not exempt, as the late fire at Mr. Jacob Bell's, East Hill, Wandsworth, Surrey, and at that Lord Abingdon's farm, at Cumnor, Berks, testify. That the leading Fire Assurance Companies should have adopted, in consequence of this serious out-break, a higher scale of premium than ordinary circumstances have heretofore required for the risk of farming stock and farm buildings, is nothing more than reasonable, and consistent with prudence and foresight. But even the hint, which a large increased rate of premium should have given to the farmers generally, seems to have had hitherto little effect; the incendiaries seem almost invariably to escape detection, while so little attempt is made to put down this fearful crime that we can scarcely mention one among the Midland, Eastern, and Southern counties which has not, within the last quarter, been disgraced by incendiaryism.

"We trust that the nobility and country gentlemen of England will at once exert themselves to arrest this fast-spreading calamity; or, in common prudence, the Fire Assurance offices will be compelled to adopt total prohibitory rates of premium upon farm property. The mere increase of the rate on ordinary farm out-buildings from 3s. to 4s. per cent. was, we always conceived, perfectly useless either as a hint to the insured to use great precaution and circumspection, or as a remuneration for the increased risk, to which the prevalence of incendiaryism had subjected insurances on agricultural property. We feel convinced that a general communication to the insurance agents in the country to the effect that the offices decline all further insurances on this description of property, would immediately cause a general activity, and a determination to repress incendiaryism."

A DIFFICULT CHRISTENING.

A case, which has lately occurred at Magdeburg, is worth relating as an example of the operation of some of the old laws and powers of the State in Prussia. A man, at Seehausen, in the Altmark, took his child to be baptized in the church, demanding that he should receive the names of "Jacobi Waldeck." The clergyman refused to allow the infant to bear names which have a party sound, though one is that of an eminent physician, the other that of a great jurist and judge of the Superior Tribunal of Berlin. The father declined to have the child christened by any names but those selected by himself. The clergyman took proceedings against him, and the Court of Law, exercising its power, appointed a curator or guardian to act for the child. But the curator appears to have been a friend of the family, for he demanded of the consistory that the baptism should be completed in the names chosen. This was again refused, and the curator required to have the child christened in "usual" names. The parents would not comply, and, as it was notified that a compulsory baptism (or *Zwangstaufe*) would be performed, the mother left the place with the infant, and for some time eluded the enquiries of the police. At last she was discovered in the little town

of Arendsee, arrested, and brought under an escort of gendarmes to Seehausen—the infant, as the *corpus delicti*, snugly packed in a hand-basket or *trag-korb*, and carried by two men, in safe custody. Arrived in Seehausen, the mother was taken to the prison, and the infant to the church. The burgomaster and the gendarmes were in attendance as witnesses, and with locked doors the rite was performed, the child being taken back to the parents, named as their "superiors" pleased. But even this was not the end of the affair. The mother, for refusing to give up the child and absconding with it, was charged with "resistance by act to an officer of the authorities or *Obrigkeit* in the discharge of its orders," and was condemned to two months' imprisonment. Against this sentence she appealed, but the Court of Magdeburg has confirmed the decision, and the mother is now in confinement.

THREE PERSONS BURNT TO DEATH.

A fire broke out at the Coach and Horses public-house, St. Martin's lane, on Wednesday morning, the consequences of which have been most disastrous, three persons, respectively aged eighteen years, ten years, and six years, having fallen victims to the flames. The house was kept by Ben Caunt, the pugilist and ex-champion of England, and two of the deceased parties are his children, the third a relative of Mrs. Caunt. The building was three stories high, and had three rooms on each floor. In the attic slept three children, together with the deceased Ruth Lowe, Edward Noakes, a waiter, and Samuel Lowe, the potman, who was also a cousin of Mrs. Caunt. The second floor front room was occupied by Mrs. Caunt; the middle room contained a spare bed, and in the third or back room slept the nurse, with an infant child of Mrs. Caunt. Mr. Caunt had left town on Tuesday afternoon for Lewisham, on a shooting excursion, and Mrs. Caunt having closed the house, about two o'clock on Wednesday morning, went to bed. Before doing so, she requested her niece, who had hitherto occupied the second floor spare room, to sleep with her that night, as Mr. Caunt was absent. The young woman consented, and went into her room to fetch her night-dress, taking the opportunity, at the request of her aunt, to examine the apartment and look under the bed to see that no one was concealed in the house. She had a candle in her hand while thus engaged, and it is thought that, an accidental spark falling upon some combustible material in this room, must have occasioned the catastrophe. Mrs. Caunt had been in bed only a very few moments when she was awakened by the waiter calling out from the third floor that the house was on fire, and urging his mistress to make her escape. Mrs. Caunt roused her niece instantly, and, hastening out of her own room, went to the middle room for the purpose of alarming the nurse, who was sleeping with her infant in the back room. As soon as she opened the door of the middle room, Mrs. Caunt was overpowered by the flames and smoke with which the room was filled. With great intrepidity, however, she rushed forward, and, forcing open the door of the third room, called to the nurse to bring out her child. The nurse, perceiving her danger in an instant, did not stop to dress herself, but snatched up the child and followed Mrs. Caunt out of the room, literally walking through the flames, with which the apartment was filled. Meantime Noakes, the waiter, had opened the trapdoor in the roof, and was handing the persons who slept in this part of the house on to the leads, and thence down through a skylight into the adjoining dwelling. The barmaid, the maid-servant, and Mr. Caunt's eldest son (a boy about twelve years of age), were all rescued in this manner, and placed in safety by Noakes, who returned to look for the other children, but unfortunately too late to save them. It appears that, in their alarm and excitement, they had got out of the bed and hidden themselves beneath it; and here, when the fire was got under, the Brigade men found their remains burnt almost to a cinder. The body of Ruth Lowe, a remarkably fine young woman, aged eighteen, was found in another part of the room extended on the floor, and reduced to an almost shapeless mass. There was very little time lost in reducing the fire after the engines were got to work, and the extent of damage done to the house is comparatively trifling. The escape of the Royal Society for the Preservation of Life from Fire, stationed near St. Martin's Church, was early on the spot, but not sufficiently so to render essential service.

INTERESTING TO CLERKS.

A case of some interest to clerks and employers was heard in the Court of Common Pleas, on Tuesday. At the last sittings before term Messrs. Fry, who are builders at St. John's Wood, brought an action against a man named Bromley, their clerk, for losing upwards of £100 belonging to them through gross negligence. On that occasion a verdict was given in their favour, and on Tuesday Sergeant Byles moved for a rule nisi for a new trial on the ground that the verdict was against the evidence. Bromley had been sent by the plaintiffs to Messrs. Prescott's bank for £35 in silver and £120 in gold, to pay the weekly wages of the plaintiffs' workpeople. On receiving the bags containing the money he placed them in a carpet-bag, fastened with a clasp, and returned to St. John's Wood in an omnibus. In Baker-street he got into a second omnibus, at which time the carpet-bag was all right. In Baker-street a man wearing a great coat got into the omnibus, near Lord's Cricket-ground, and sat near him, the bag being placed on the seat. When he got out of the omnibus he fancied the bag felt light, and on examining it he found that a small hole had been cut through the carpet-bag, and that the bag containing the sovereigns had been emptied of its contents with the exception of two or three half-sovereigns. The appearance of the bags corroborated his statement,

and there was no imputation on his honesty; and it appeared that he had returned crying over the misfortune which had happened to him. The rule was refused. The Court was of opinion that the verdict was a proper one. The result will be that the clerk must make good the whole of the sum lost.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Lord John Russell gave a Cabinet dinner at his residence in Chesham-place, on Wednesday evening. The Ministers present were the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Minto, Viscount Palmerston, Earl Grey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Hobhouse, the Earl of Carlisle, the Right Honourable Henry Labouchere, the Marquis of Clanricarde, and the Right Honourable Fox Maule.

Lord John Russell has issued invitations for a grand parliamentary full dress banquet at his official residence in Downing-street on the 3rd proximo, to the several members of the administration and court having seats in that assembly. The Marquis of Lansdowne will give a grand full dress parliamentary dinner on the 3rd proximo, at Lansdowne-house, to a large party of peers. Lord Stanley will give a banquet to the Duke of Richmond and a numerous circle of Protectionist peers on the 3rd of the ensuing month, at his mansion in St. James's-square.

The *Daily News* says "It is generally believed in naval circles that the command of the Mediterranean fleet will be given to Admiral Deans Dundas; and that the gallant officer will be succeeded as first 'Sea Lord' of the Admiralty by Admiral Elliott."

It is reported that Sir Edward Colebrooke will become a candidate for the representation of the Falkirk district of burghs, on Lord Lincoln's being raised to the House of Lords.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday night contains the Speaker's notice that at the end of a fortnight from the 13th instant a writ will be issued for the election of Members of Parliament in place of Viscount Alford and Robert Bromley, Esq., both deceased.

Mr. E. Edwards, who was for the last eleven years employed in the library of the British Museum, has been appointed librarian of the Manchester Free Public Library, at a salary of £200 a-year.

The late Mr. Osbaldiston, manager of the Victoria Theatre, has not died so wealthy as was generally anticipated. The personal property, it is understood, will be sworn under £4000. The lease of the Victoria Theatre, with all the paraphernalia, he has bequeathed to Miss Vincent, who is also left sole executrix and residuary legatee. To Mrs. Osbaldiston and her two daughters, he has bequeathed a policy of assurance for £1000, and about £160 in money. It is said that his wife had previously received an allowance of £300 per annum. The furniture, plate, carriage, &c., at his villa at West Brixton, has left to Miss Vincent, with whom resides Miss Beatrice Osbaldiston.

The Lisbon papers say it is expected that the King Consort of Portugal and his two elder sons will visit London during the Exhibition, and that they will be conveyed to this country in one of the war steamers.

The latest accounts from Van Diemen's Land say that Mr. Smith O'Brien had arrived in Hobart Town, by the steamer, from Port Arthur, and had accepted his ticket of leave on his word not to leave the colony.

The French garrison in the city of Rome is reduced to 5000 men, but there are a few more in the environs. The officers and soldiers continue to conduct themselves with great propriety, but there is no friendly intercourse with the inhabitants; frequent collisions take place in the wine shops between the Roman and French soldiers, and of the latter no less than nine were lately killed and wounded within the last ten days. The Roman soldier has the advantage with the short sword; the Frenchman is not so quick, and generally is the sufferer.

A telegraphic message on Thursday announced the sudden resignation of the Spanish ministry, and the immediate departure of General Narvaez for Bayonne. The circumstances which led to this event are not even remotely hinted at in the communication referred to. The Minister of Finance had issued a decree, prohibiting the circulation of French gold, except as a metal for its intrinsic and conventional value; but that it might be exported from Spain duty free.

Accounts from Madrid of the 8th state that serious disturbances have taken place in Reus, Catalonia, against the tax of communes. The posts of the city guard were burned. M. Soler, the collector of the tax, was assassinated. Similar disorders have taken place in other parts of the province.

The line of telegraphs from Madrid to Cadiz is nearly completed. This, with the establishment of a line of steam-packets between Havannah and the latter place will give Madrid news from the West Indies every fifteen days.

The Schleswig-Holstein question has been settled by the submission of the Stadholders, the latter throwing themselves upon the German confederacy to protect the rights of Holstein and Schleswig, which that confederacy promised to do.

The speech of M. Manteuffel on the 7th instant, in the Second Chamber, was rather remarkable. He ridicules in the most insolent style all that Prussia has done since 1848. The noble stand that the Hessians have made for their constitution, is called a dangerous revolution of officials—a revolution made in dressing gowns and slippers; it is contrasted contemptuously with barricade revolutions, which suppose, M. Manteuffel intimates, at least courage in the revolutionists. He says that Prussian policy has reached its turning point; that he hopes it will never again be involved in a fog; and that it must break decidedly with all revolutionary principles.

The ninth battalion of the garrison of Rendsburg, in

Schleswig-Holstein, received on the 7th orders to march. Thinking they were about to attack the Danes, they cheerfully complied, but they were taken to the fortifications, and told to shoot a soldier of the battalion, who had been condemned to death by a court-martial for having killed a sub-lieutenant. They uttered cries of indignation, and refused to take part in the execution, saying that the sub-lieutenant had ill-treated his men. The officers succeeded in quieting them, and eight men were drawn by lot to shoot the soldier. When the word of command was given, three men fired in the air; the others discharged their muskets at the man, and he fell dead. The three refractory soldiers were at once seized, tried by court-martial, condemned to death, and early next morning were executed.

The *Overland Mail*, which brings news from Calcutta to the 7th ultimo, says that Sir William Gomm landed very quietly, and was installed with the usual formalities. Sir Charles Napier will not meet his successor, but proceed via the Punjab and Scinde, to Bombay, whence he will embark for Europe.

The only event of any importance in the Bombay papers last received is the account of a slight skirmish with the Wazirree hill tribes, who made an attack on our outposts on the Bunnnoo frontier on the 19th of November. They were, however, unable to make head against the fire kept up by the guards, who anticipated the attack, had been placed in the towers of these villages, and were driven back with considerable loss after fifteen minutes' firing. The main body finding their advanced detachment so roughly handled, and having learnt that the outposts were well supported, dispersed.

Letters and papers from Port Phillip, New South Wales, Launceston, and Hobart Town, to the 5th of October, describe the existence of a strong and combined movement against the further extension or continuance of the convict system. A great league was forming for the purpose of agitating the question throughout the whole of the Australian colonies, all of which, it is remarked, are deeply interested in the matter. At Hobart Town the members had taken the following pledge:—

"We solemnly pledge ourselves neither to hire nor employ, directly or indirectly, convicts, male or female, whether called exiles, probationists, paupers, or ticket-of-leave men, and whether sent under the present or any other system of transportation, which shall arrive in the colony after the present date."

Meetings of the colonists had been held at Hobart Town, Launceston, Adelaide, Port Phillip, Sydney, and other places, at which resolutions of the same character were unanimously passed. There had also been meetings of the various trade unions, from which it appears that a determined opposition will be organized against the further continuance of the system.

The latest accounts from Nicaragua state that the ports of San Salvador were then blockaded by the English, and that those of Nicaragua were threatened. The troubles arose from a misunderstanding with a German Jew, who pretended to be an American commercial agent, but was some time since appointed as magistrate at San Juan by the English Consul. In the exercise of his functions he sentenced a number of Nicaraguan boatmen to be flogged in the presence of Mr. Chatfield. This produced a great excitement in the interior, which led to acts of retaliation. Upon this the English Vice-Consul claimed redress of the Nicaraguan Government, ordering the above ports to be put in blockade.

According to the American papers "a great impulse has been given to industry and enterprise on the Island of Juan Fernandez. A company has been formed with the exclusive privilege from the Government of occupying that island for a specified term of years. The object of the Government in this arrangement is to colonize and cultivate the island, for which purpose it presents remarkable facilities. It abounds in every variety of agricultural products, the climate is fertile, and there is a safe and commodious harbour for all commercial operations. A communication will be established immediately between Valparaiso and Copiapo, in the first instance by sailing vessels and afterwards by steamers.

The New York papers received by the last steamer contain the correspondence between Mr. Webster and the Austrian Minister at Washington respecting the appointment of Mr. Dudley Mann to communicate with the Hungarians, had they established their independence, and also a report of the discussion which arose in the Senate on the presentation of the correspondence on the 30th of December. The Austrian Minister's letter, complaining that the Austrian Government was called "an iron rule," and that Kosuth was treated with respect, was received with "considerable merriment." Mr. Webster's reply was pronounced "capital," and was proposed to be honoured by the printing of 10,000 extra copies! which, however, was negatived. A Washington correspondent of the *Tribune* remarks:—"During the denunciations of Austria and Russia by Mr. Magnum and Mr. Walker, Mr. Bodisco, the Russian Minister, was in the lobby, shrugging his shoulders in a very startling manner. The more Conservative and cautious tone of Mr. Clay, however, evidently relieved him."

A very numerous meeting of the inhabitants of St. Anne, Soho, was held at the theatre, Dean-street, on Thursday evening, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament in favour of the immediate repeal of the window-tax. The meeting was addressed by Sir De Lacy Evans and Mr. C. Lushington, who both spoke confidently as to the probable abolition of the tax, if the people would only persist in their demand.

It is reported that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, instead of proposing the total repeal of the window-tax, contemplates only a reduction of the impost. In the event of his being compelled, by the pressure from without, to repeal it entirely, he hopes to retain a portion of it, by levying a tax on houses.

The arrangements for the erection of the marble arch

at the Cumberland-gate entrance to Hyde-park will be carried into effect as speedily as possible. The necessary excavations and formation of the foundations are proceeding rapidly, and the workmen are employed until an unusually late hour at night, in order to facilitate the completion of the works.

A crowded meeting of the ratepayers of Marylebone, composed of gentlemen of all shades of political opinion, was held, on Monday evening, in the Court-house, for the purpose of organizing measures with a view to the total and immediate repeal of the window-tax. Deputations were present from the East Paners Parochial Association, from the Marylebone Ratepayers' Protection Association, from the Marylebone Parochial Committee, and other bodies. Letters were read from Sir James Duke, M.P., Mr. B. Bond Cabbell, M.P., and other influential parishioners, expressing their cordial concurrence in the movement. Mr. Nicholay, the chairman, observed that Sir Peter Laurie had said he had almost the authority of Government for stating that the window-tax was doomed. A resolution condemning it, and calling for its immediate, total, and unconditional repeal, was carried unanimously. It was then agreed that a great public meeting be held in a few days in the workhouse-yard, in order to promote the repeal of this tax, and that Sir B. Hall be invited to preside.

It is stated that an order has been sent to the Bristol parochial authorities from the Secretary of State for the erection of a lunatic asylum, the estimated cost of which is £50,000.

An interesting meeting was held at Southampton on Tuesday, when Mr. Howe, the Nova Scotian minister, now in England, stated what measures his Government have designed to promote emigration to British American colonies. One portion of his plan to facilitate emigration is to fit up what he calls ocean omnibuses, that is, large steamers, without sleeping berths, but with large arm chairs, to accommodate a large number of emigrants, and to convey them from England to Halifax in ten days for a very small sum per head. Once at Halifax, he says, an unlimited number of emigrants would soon find labour and subsistence in abundance.

William Bent, a greengrocer, aged seventy-eight years, was thrown out of his vehicle, owing to the dangerous state of the road, while riding along Newington Causeway, on Friday fortnight, and received such injuries that he died on Saturday last. An inquest was held on the body on Monday, when the jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter against Mr. Pocock, chairman, and the five trustees of the South District Board of St. George, Southwark." The coroner took the recognizance of £50 from Mr. Pocock for his appearance at the Central Criminal Court, and stated that he would accept the recognizances of the other trustees in a similar amount.

The Franconia, from Baltimore, for Liverpool, laden with cotton and tobacco, ran on the rocks at Rhoscoy on Sunday, and became a total wreck. The Captain, mate, and nine men were drowned.

A fire broke out in a mill belonging to Messrs. Shatwell and Co., Pinmill Brow, Manchester, on Tuesday evening, which terminated in the partial destruction of the building. The fire, it is supposed, originated in the top story, but from what cause cannot yet be ascertained. The property is insured for £6000, but the loss, it is stated, will be much greater than that sum.

A fire broke out in the extensive establishment of Mr. Thomas Nelson, Hope Park End, Edinburgh, on Saturday evening, when the premises sustained serious injury, and it has been estimated the stock of printed sheets consumed on the second and third floors of the building was worth nearly £2000. The hydraulic presses, printing machine, and steam-engine have sustained some damage. The property was insured to the full amount.

A labourer named Robert Appling, engaged in discharging the cargo of a Guernsey schooner in the Regent's Canal Docks, on Thursday afternoon, was suddenly shot dead by some unknown person. A report of firearms was heard, the man exclaimed "Oh, God, I'm shot!" and fell dead, a bullet having passed into his right breast. From the direction taken by the bullet, the piece must have been fired from an elevation. The police have carefully searched all the adjoining buildings without detecting the perpetrator of this murderous outrage.

A fatal accident occurred at the Ingatestone railway station on the Eastern Counties Railway, whereby John Wilson, an engine-driver of the company, unfortunately lost his life. The driver of the goods train got off his engine, it is supposed, to expedite the passing of the train, when, by some extraordinary oversight, he got between the two trains. He was giving some directions to the driver of the passenger train, when the engine of the goods train jammed him between the trains, and crushed him to death.

A boat, containing nine individuals—viz., two watermen, two women, and five children, were being rowed over the river, at Gray's Thurrock, on Saturday afternoon, when a coal-brig going down the river unfortunately ran them down, and the whole party were drowned.

The crew of a Swedish brig lying in the Downs last week, having secured the captain and mate in the cabin, proceeded to rifle the vessel of every article of value, and among other property of a portable description carried off the captain's watch. Having taken to the boat, they deserted her on landing near the second battery at Deal, where the boat was found and secured by the coast guard on duty.

A young gentleman, who called himself John Fothergill, and who had evidently been idling rather than after dinner or supper, on Sunday evening, commenced the old absurd practice of ringing bells and knocking at the doors of the peaceable inhabitants of Norton street, by way of amusement. A policeman tried to remonstrate with him on the folly of such conduct, but he would not listen to him. He was brought up at Marlborough-street police-office, on Tuesday, and ordered to pay 40s. for injury to door-bells, and £3 for assaulting the police.

A seizure was made on Saturday of an extensive illicit distillery in Eagle-mews, Eagle-street, Red Lion-square. The lower part of the premises had the appearance of a stable and coach-house. The place was well adapted for the purpose for which it was intended, and the means of retreat, if circumstances required, had not been lost sight of, for the tiles had been removed from the roof, and a rope attached to a beam, which formed a ready means of escape to the roof, and from thence to the adjoining houses. It was evident that, while the officers were breaking into the place at the front, the persons working the still used this plan, and escaped before they could gain admission. The still was a large one, and, as kept in full operation, was capable of producing sufficient spirits to defraud the revenue to the amount of £5000 per annum.

Mr. T. C. Wigg, grocer, of Lambeth-mash, left his shop on Saturday night, accompanied by his son (twelve years of age) for his residence, 2, Lorimer-terrace, having about him a considerable sum of money. On reaching Manor-place, Walworth-road, he fancied his steps were dogged by two suspicious-looking men; and, anticipating an attack, kept on his guard. At the point where West-street is intersected by Canterbury-place, the men appeared to leave, but suddenly returned, and struck Mr. Wigg violently on the back of his head with some heavy instrument. Mr. Wigg and his son called out "Murder!" as loudly as they could, when the former again received two or three violent blows also on the back of his head, and some blows were also inflicted upon the head of the child. A policeman, who was on duty near the place, ran to the spot, and found Mr. Wigg leaning against some palings and the blood flowing profusely from wounds in his head. He, however, contrived to tell the constable that the villains had fled along Canterbury-place, and accordingly the policeman went in pursuit of them. He apprehended one, but the other made his escape. Mr. Wigg and his son were within twenty yards of home at the time. The thieves had not succeeded in abstracting any of the property. Mr. Wigg was very seriously injured by four large deep wounds at the back of his head. Near the scene of violence was discovered a short riding-whip, formed of gutta percha, the head of which was loaded with four ounces of metal.

Messrs. Buck and Wootton, of the Post-office, Mount-street, Lambeth, gave the following account of a recent attempt to break into their premises:—"This morning (Monday), between three and four o'clock, we were awakened by a noise in the lower back part of the house. Thieves had broken a pane of glass, and cut through the top of the shutter, through partially lined with iron, which enabled them to unfix a bolt, and remove the shutter bar. Having entered the kitchen, their further progress was stayed by a strongly-bolted door leading to the upper part of the premises. This defied their 'jemmies,' as he marks testify; and it is well for the burglars it did; for, on the other side, we were prepared with loaded firearms, and should most certainly have given them a warm reception. This is the second time, within two years, that the house has been broken into. In May, 1849, he lost exceeded £200; and since that period we have kept firearms loaded and ready. The thieves failing to force the door, or perhaps hearing us, retired by the window; but the morning being very dark we could only trace them by their footprints after daylight. We are glad to say they took nothing of much value. We shall now adopt other fastenings, as this plainly shew that the ordinary bolts and bars are not insurmountable impediments to the experienced cracksmen."

A poor woman named Dinah Embury, aged fifty years, residing in Southampton, was taken ill lately. The parish surgeon attended her, and she was allowed temporary relief. As soon as it was found she was likely to be a permanent burden to the ratepayers, the guardians of the poor rendered her into the workhouse. The poor creature has an invincible objection to go into the workhouse, and the relieving officer gave her relief in opposition to the wishes of the guardians. The latter threatened to disallow it, and it was discontinued. The surgeon appealed personally to the guardians to continue the poor creature assistance out of the house, but the latter were inexorable. The woman died, and her death was accelerated, according to the surgeon, by destitution. An inquest was held on the body, and, after nearly a fortnight's investigation, the jury returned the following verdict on Thursday:—"Died from natural causes, and the guardians of the poor are censurable for not affording her relief in the last stage of her disease."

A cashing something of the features of that of the unfortunate Jane Wilbord has just been brought before a bench of Worcestershire magistrates. In this case the ill-usage was a young girl named Hannah Hinton, ad sixteen years, who at Michaelmas last was hired the statute fair, by Mr. John Lee, a farmer, of Kemp, near Worcester, as nursemaid to his children, at the wages of £2 per year. On her appearance before the magistrate she appeared much emaciated, and her features appeared pinched and careworn, her general appearance being that of a person much older. She deserved frequent castigations inflicted by her master and mistress, but especially the latter. She also represented that the food which was given to her was scanty, and when she had meat, or dripping upon her bread, it was offensive to the nose and palate. Mrs. Lee, a neighbour to the Lees, gave evidence as to the ill-treatment of the girl. She had often heard Mrs. Lee threaten to kill the girl, knock her brains out, &c. Mrs. Munn, a dressmaker, spoke of several acts of cruelty exercised by Mrs. Lee towards the girl, who had complained that she was kept short of food, beaten, ill-used. Had known Mrs. Lee beat her with a wing stick, and heard the girl scream out. The magistrates fined Lee and his wife £2 each and costs; and delivering the judgment of the court the chairman eulogized the case as one of "great and unnecessary

Three notorious robbers made their escape on Saturday morning from Carlisle gaol. The prisoners affected illness, and one was supposed to be suffering from epileptic fits. They availed themselves of the privileges allowed them for the purpose of accomplishing their object, which was done with so much skill that they have hitherto evaded detection. A reward of £20 has been offered for their apprehension.

As three young men, named George Darley, William Chees, and John Major Bennison, were out poaching, yesterday week, near Ganton Dale-house, in Yorkshire, they were seen by Sir T. D. Legard's gamekeeper, who went after them, accompanied by six assistants. On coming up with the poachers a scuffle ensued, in the course of which Darley, one of the poachers, was shot, and died in a few minutes. At the inquest on his body it was stated by all the witnesses that the gun had gone off by accident. A verdict of "Homicide by misadventure" was returned.

In the county of Bucks crime appears to be on the increase, and pauperism on the decrease. In the county prison at Aylesbury there are no less than 198 prisoners in that establishment at the present time. Last year, at this time, there were but 150 prisoners in the gaol—thus showing an increase of 48. On the other hand, in Aylesbury union-house, on the week ending the 4th of January instant, there were 127 paupers; at the corresponding period last year there were 171. We should like to know how many of the paupers have become poachers during last year.

The *Cork Reporter* announces, on what it considers "perfectly good authority," that the decree of the Thürs Synod "will not be confirmed by the Sovereign Pontiff, and will, consequently, not take effect." The *Freeman*, however, throws cold water on the statement of its southern contemporary, and is led to believe, from its own sources of information, that Pio Nono has come to no such sensible conclusion as that put forward by the Cork paper.

By a decision in the Court of Delegates, at Dublin, on Saturday, announced by Mr. Justice Crompton, the right to an immense property, £3000 a-year real estate, and £250,000 personal and funded property, has been transferred from the widow of the testator, to whom by will he had left it, to Miss Elizabeth Thewlis, his first cousin and next akin. The testator was Mr. Edmund Kelly, of Merion-square, Dublin, and the widow and administratrix was a lady whom he accidentally became acquainted with and married, but had no issue.

A coroner's jury, in the county of Cork, has returned a verdict that a poor man, named Daniel O'Brien, died on Saturday last "from starvation, through the neglect of the guardians of the union."

In the union of Ennystymon, where the commissioners have dismissed the ordinary board of guardians and appointed salaried guardians to take charge of the union, a shocking case of death from starvation is reported in the journal. The jury at the inquest returned a verdict that death was caused by "starvation, through the neglect of the guardians."

The Belfast papers contain an account of a serious accident in the neighbourhood of that town on Saturday, from the falling of a new mill. The building had been roofed, and the workmen had just commenced their operations, on Saturday morning, when the whole edifice, three stories high and eighty feet long, came down with a crash. Thirteen men were at work on the premises when the accident happened, and twelve of them were killed. A verdict of "Manslaughter" was brought against Mr. Mager, the contractor, who has been committed for trial.

The body of a young woman was found impaled upon the railings of Gilbert's Hotel, Westland row, Dublin, on Sunday morning. An inquest was held on the body on Monday, when it appeared that she had thrown herself out of the window in a fit of insanity.

On the night of the 3rd instant, an armed party attacked the house of Michael Lefan, who resides in Coolyhone, in the county of Carlow. They fired several shots through the windows, which they demolished, and posted a threatening notice on the house threatening him with the death of Marum, who was shot some years since in the county of Kilkenny, if he took a farm in the townland of Bahana, from which some persons had been ejected four years since. Some families were lately ejected for non-payment of rent, and at the present period there are 400 acres untenanted.

Newspaper Chat.

The recent statement in reference to Dr. Kitto's infirmities—that he is both deaf and dumb—is corrected, on "the best authority," only the former of these misfortunes is suffered by him.

Cincinnati, the "Queen City of the West," has a population of 115,500. By the last census, in 1840, it was 46,382, showing an increase of 69,208, or about 150 per cent in ten years.

A few days ago at the Bath station, the ticket-clerk forgot to attend to his duties, and the people who wished to journey were obliged to take their places in the train without payment and without tickets.

A Newcastle Protectionist paper affirms that many of Earl Grey's best farms are unlet, and that others of his tenants threaten to leave their farms unless he reduces their rents considerably.

N. Ranieri, a painter of some reputation, died lately at Guardiagrele, in the Abruzzi, at the advanced age of 101. He never drank wine, and his diet was extremely simple.

Mr. Leach, of Manchester, stated at a Chartist soirée, at Sheffield, lately, that "he had spent eighteen of the best years of his life in speech-making, but he would be sorry to waste the next eighteen years without making a more sensible and manly effort towards doing good."

Mr. Muntz, in his last letter, which appears in the *Morning Post*, says he is informed that "the *Times* and the *Morning Chronicle* are the same property, and that the principal proprietor of the *Times* is the house of Rothschild. Therefore, the *Times* took Marshal Haynau under their protection, together with all the Austrians."

The case of a fugitive slave, now pending before the courts in New York, excites a great interest throughout the United States. Every effort is made by able counsel to give him all the protection which the law affords. The cause is managed with great zeal on both sides, but with no demonstrations of violence.

Two apparently respectable women applied at the surgery of a public establishment in Devonport, the other day, to be permitted to place the hand of a man who had been drowned on the previous day on the knee of one of the women as a cure for the King's evil, with which she was afflicted.

Pio Nono does not seem capable of governing his own small dominions, much less this country. A letter from Rome says:—"The other night the diligence from Rome was plundered near Ancona, and, notwithstanding the vigilance of the Austrian Chasseurs, the people cannot go from one town to the other in the Romagna without the danger of being robbed and murdered."

The *Gazette de Lyon*, in relation to the recent sham miracle, says:—"We learn that the commission appointed by the Archbishop of Avignon, to examine into the facts affirmed with regard to the picture in the chapel of St. Saturnin-les-Apt, has decided unanimously that there are no grounds for proceeding any further in the matter, as the facts have nothing of a supernatural character in them."

An old man at Gloucester, on New Year's Eve, went to a party "to see the old year out," when he was observed in a corner apparently asleep. It was agreed not to disturb him until after the last stroke of the old year had ceased to reverberate upon the clock bell, in order to have some badinage at the expense of his drowsiness; but when the party strove to awake him, as they had designed, he was found to be dead.

The churchwardens of a parish in Yorkshire have returned the following answer to the circular received by them from the National Club, which has taken up the work of Church Reform:—"The churchwardens of —— know their duty too well to require instructions how to perform it from London clubs and preaching dukes. Therefore, after reading Mr. Bellamy's printed circular, they have unanimously resolved to burn it, and have burnt it accordingly."

A manufacturer at Balbriggan, named Appleyard, means to exhibit at the "World's Fair," in London, the perfection to which he has brought the manufacture of cotton in stockings of as fine a texture as silk, and with as beautiful a gloss and appearance as would make them available on any court occasion. A dozen pair of ladies full-sized stockings, of this manufacture, which he has in readiness to forward to the exhibition, weigh only nine ounces.

The books in the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg, founded by Catherine II., and which the Emperor Nicholas has thrown open to the public, have just received a new classification. It appears from the new catalogues that it contains 563,420 volumes and 15,471 manuscripts. The duplicate copies amount to about 20,000, part of which are to be given to the Geographical Society of St. Petersburg, and others to the Archaeological Society of St. Petersburg. Such works as remain over are to be sold publicly.

An Italian, named Formigini, belonging to an old and wealthy family of Milan, committed suicide last week by means of laudanum, at his hotel, Rue de la Muette, at Passy. Not having received any reply to his knocks at the door, the hotel-keeper caused it to be broken open, and found the unfortunate man lying dead on the bed. On a table was a letter addressed to Mme. O—, for whom he appears to have entertained a profound passion; in this letter he began giving an account of his sensations on taking the poison, and continued to write until the pen fell from his fingers.

SILK GOWNS.—We understand that a more than usually large number of applications have been made to the Lord Chancellor by gentlemen of the bar for silk gowns, but that at present his lordship does not intend to accede to any of the applications.—*Globe*.

GERUSALEM LIBERATA.—It is reported at Vienna that the Catholic powers contemplate uniting for regaining the sanctified spots in the Holy Land (by purchase and treaty, of course); and that the Order of the Holy Sepulchre shall be restored under the auspices of the Pope as Grand Master.

EPISCOPAL FRAUDS.—The Bishop of Oxford, in a late reply to one of the addressees from his clergy, is said to have thus expressed himself:—"Let us hold by the creeds, prayers, and ordinances which were given us by Jesus Christ." Now, any one acquainted with the history of creeds and ordinances can contradict this; and it is astonishing that such episcopal assertions are received *sub silentio*.—*Examiner*.

HONEST SERVANTS.—The society formed at Frankfort on the Maine for the encouragement of faithful services in servants, has just held its sitting. Twenty gold medals were given to servants living with the same master for more than twenty years, fifteen silver ones for more than ten years, and fourteen for more than eight years. This speaks well for the morality of the place, as the population is only 55,000, and the number of servants not great.

THE DISTILLED ESSENCE OF THE YANKEE.—Mr. Collins, of steam-ship celebrity, is thus described by the *Unit*, a phenological journal:—"He has a general go-aheadness of character. He is emphatically a steamboat in breeches; possessing in himself, in a very high degree, all the traits that constitute the Yankee. He is a living representative of the best written description of the real American character carried out to its ultimate to repletion."

A SAD BLUNDER.—Among the recent deaths in Prussia is that of M. Link, the senior Professor of Berlin University, celebrated as a botanist and writer on natural philosophy. According to custom, a funeral oration was pronounced over his grave; but unfortunately the clergyman selected being a strictly orthodox pietist, and not being able to approve of the spirit of some of the writings of the deceased, censured them in most unbecoming language, to the indignation of the numerous friends present.

A NOBLE EXAMPLE.—The picture-gallery in Bridge-water-house, is to be completed forthwith, so that the collection may be opened to the public and foreign visitors during the Great Exhibition. As the scaffolding is only now being put up to begin the internal works, efforts will be needed to get it done. We hope other owners of collections and fine mansions will take the hint thus afforded, and set their houses in order. England has wonderful collections of works of art, but too many of them are sealed.—*The Builder.*

RURAL ORTHOPEY.—The assistant overseer of a parish in Gloucestershire attended a petty sessions, near Chepstow, the other day, with list of defaulters to the poor rate, for the purpose of making out his "excused list," and having it confirmed. The list, which was assisted by some quaint marginal references, among which "O. P." was very conspicuous, was duly handed to the presiding "Justice;" when the magistrate enquired, "Mr. ——, what does this 'O. P.' mean?" The worthy parish official, with polite deference, rejoined, "On't pay, please your honour."

A SCEPTICAL AUSTRIAN EMPEROR.—A German newspaper, in speaking of the alleged miraculous flow of blood from the wounds of the Saviour in the Saturnin Chapel, in France, says there are persons still living who remember that the illustrious Joseph II. was a great disbeliever in miracles, and that he actually prohibited the growth of a beard on a figure of Jesus Christ which is near one of the doors of the Cathedral of St. Stephen, in Vienna. He ordered a couple of sturdy grenadiers to mount guard on the spot, and so great was the fear which their formidable moustaches inspired that the wooden image did not venture to disobey the imperial mandate. It has long been a saying in Austria that Joseph was born half a century too soon.

PRIESTLY PROPRIETIES.—The Catholic hierarchy is determined to make the outer man of the inferior priesthood what it should be, for the Consistorial Court of the Archbishop of Salzburg has issued orders that the tonsure is to be kept well shaved, and that the priest's collar is always to be worn. The waistcoats of the clergy are to be buttoned up to the throat; no blouse, pantaloons, or calabrese (slosh) hats are to be worn. A dandified cut of the clothes is to be carefully avoided, and when officiating the priest is to wear his clerical gown (talar); buckles are to be worn in the shoes on high days and holidays. Some hints are also given relative to the unseeliness of frequenting public-houses, stopping out late at night, and smoking.

A DELIBERATE ASSASSIN.—Last month, while divine service was going on in the church at Tapsony, in the Sunmeh Comitat, a man called out to the organist to cease playing, as he was about to kill the parish priest and the schoolmaster. This was no empty threat, for taking a gun from under his cloak, he fired at the schoolmaster, but, fortunately missing him, the bullet took away the top of his chair. The priest, hurrying from the altar, called on his congregation to arrest the miscreant, but they declining to do so, because "he had not offended them," left the church. As the assassin, who had reloaded his gun, still remained, the priest and the schoolmaster, taking heart, made a rush at him, and at last, with the assistance of a gentleman's haiduck (a servant), succeeding in disarming him. He is now in the county prison at Kaposvar.

UNITARIANISM.—An important theological question has been brought for decision before the Prussian Upper Tribunal. A man in Konigsberg was condemned for "blasphemy against God," in consequence of irreligious expressions regarding the person of Jesus Christ. The Court of Appeal decided that in this case no "blasphemy against God" had been substantiated, because, even, according to the second article of the apostolical confession of faith, the person of Christ is not identical with the Deity; the defendant could, therefore, only have been condemned for "outrage against the Christian religious societies." The public prosecutor has applied for cassation of this judgment, on the plea, "that, according to the doctrine of the Christian Church, Jesus Christ not only possesses all the distinguished properties (ausgezeichnete Eigenschaften) of God, but is one and the same with God."

THE LAW CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—The *Daily News*, in noticing some church appointment made by the Bishop of Winchester, complains of it as a peculiar hardship, that the parishioners were not consulted. Why should they be? Will the *Daily News* tell us that? Do they pay him anything? Do they think to have a spiritual guide and teacher maintained for their advantage out of national funds, and have the free choice of him too? Church congregations, it is said, ought to have a voice in the selection of their clerical pastors. What entitles them to expect it? Where they pay the minister there is sense and justice in the complaint. Where they are content to be spiritually fed at the public expense, what right have they to claim liberty? "Beggars must not be choosers;" and it is, to say the least, decorous to "look a gift horse in the mouth." Let the ty of the Church of England take their losses with their gains. They have their incumbents for nothing—they are worthless, they are at least equal to what is in them. For our part, we see as strong an objection to surrender Church property to the irresponsible control of parish congregations as to any other.

What belongs to the nation ought not to be d over without conditions to a sect.—*Noncon-*

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.
J. F. is informed that the Index to the first volume of the *Leader* will be given in a week or two.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, JAN. 18.

The Reverend Mr. Bennett, of St. Paul's and St. Barnabas, has declared his determination to resign, notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends. He states his intention to "sign the necessary legal document on Tuesday, March 25," and adds, "I hope you will consider that sufficient time will thereby be given for pursuing any further course in this matter which you may deem advisable." The churchwardens of St. Paul's have accordingly written to the Bishop of London, asking him to specify what alterations he wishes made in the administration of the services. They say as their reason for asking this information, "We are determined, with the least possible delay, to take the best legal advice as to the means of trying in the Ecclesiastical Courts those questions for which your lordship has pronounced Mr. Bennett to be 'unfaithful to the Church of England.'" The Bishop of London declines to give the information required, and there the matter rested on Thursday last.

The *Daily News* of this morning says, "it is now understood that the Government have decided upon the surrender of the window tax, and the substitution of a moderate house tax. There is reason to hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have so considerable a surplus at the end of the financial year that he can easily afford a million or twelve hundred thousand for this long-desired object. By the substitution of a house tax calculated to raise about £600,000, for the window tax, raising about £1,800,000, the sacrifice of revenue will not exceed £1,200,000. Such a tax will in the first instance fall much lighter than the present window tax, and will not interfere with the construction of our dwellings."

The Marquis of Northampton died at an early hour yesterday morning, at Castle Ashby, the ancient seat in Northamptonshire. He was born on the 2nd of January, 1790, and, consequently, has just completed his sixty-first year. On the 24th of July, 1815, he married Margaret, eldest daughter of Major-General Douglas MacLean Clephane, who died at Rome on the 2nd of April, 1830. He leaves a family of four sons and two daughters, namely, Earl Compton (now Marquis of Northampton), Lords William, Alwyne, and Spencer Compton, Lady Marianna Alford, and Lady Margaret Compton. For a short period he sat in the House of Commons for his native county, but, being defeated at one election, he was never induced again to enter on the field of politics. He rarely spoke in the House of Lords since he succeeded his father in the Marquise in May, 1828, but he was invariably present at all important divisions in that assembly, voting for Catholic Emancipation, Reform, the Repeal of the Corn Laws, &c. In 1838, when the Duke of Sussex resigned the Presidency of the Royal Society, the Fellows immediately solicited the noble Marquis to become the successor to the Royal Duke. His attention at the general meetings, and his brilliant réunions of all the distinguished men in science, literature, and art, at his mansion in Piccadilly are well known, and when he retired in 1849 it may be safely said it was with the unanimous regret of not only the Fellows of the Royal Society, but a large circle of literary and scientific friends.

A young man named William East, was apprehended on Thursday night, on suspicion of having caused the death of the labourer who was shot on Thursday afternoon, while heaving at a winch on board the schooner *Lively*, in the Regent's Canal Dock, Limehouse. He had been firing at a mark in the yard behind his premises, but did not think that his gun would have carried so far, the distance being about 250 yards. East was brought up for examination at the Thames Police Office yesterday, but the evidence was so very conflicting that he was remanded till to-day.

Thomas Johnson, shoemaker, Graham-street, Islington, charged with the wilful murder of his wife, last Sunday morning, was brought up for final examination, yesterday, at Clerkenwell police-court. The evidence was clear as to his having beaten and abused his wife a few hours previous to her death. One of the witnesses said he seemed to be mad drunk. The prisoner was committed on the charge of manslaughter.

A young lady, a governess in a family, and said to be a relative, near Shiroone, in the county of Cork, eloped a few days ago with the herd of the gentleman at whose house she was engaged, and it is supposed has gone with him to the new world. The lady is said to be entitled to several hundred pounds in her own right.

The struggle between the President and the majority in the Assembly has not yet finished apparently. The debate was resumed on Thursday, and the general impression was that it would not close before last night or to-day. The speech of M. de Lasstevrie, on Wednesday, appears to have been a telling one:—

"He entered upon a complete exposure of all the facts which had reached his knowledge with regard to the society of the Dix-Decembre, the military banquets of the Elysée, the reviews of Satory, and the dismissal of General Neumayer. After giving an animated picture of the ruffianly assaults which he himself witnessed during four hours at the terminus of the Rouen Railway on the President's return from Cherbourg, he asked whether that was the conduct of members of a society of mutual aid, of benevolence, 'like the institution of St. Vincent de Paul,' as the Minister of the Interior had said? (Laughter.) He then read the prospectus of the society, describing its organization under 40 founders, 280 commissaries-general, 2800 special commissaries, 28,000 chiefs of sections, and 200,000 brigadiers, who would have an unlimited number under their orders. (Great laughter.) It had been asked if this society was dangerous. As far as conviction or fear of heroism was concerned, it was certainly not formidable. But did they think that seven or eight thousand rascals (great laughter) — thrown on the streets of Paris on a given day at the signal of chiefs for whom nobody is responsible, would not be a danger? With such materials had desolated and dishonoured Spain; and days like the 15th May had been produced in Paris. But no; the Society of the Dix Decembre was not dangerous, because General Changarnier commanded the army of Paris."

The chief speakers on Thursday were M. Berryer and M. Lamartine. The latter declared that he would stand by the flag of the Republic, and maintained that it was the partisans of M. de Remusat's proposition who did their best to crush the parliamentary system.

Four new orders of the day have been distributed; one, by M. Sainte Beuve, is a simple declaration of want of confidence; the other, by M. Adelsward, would pronounce a new act of adhesion to the republic; a third confines itself to the expression of regret for General Changarnier; the fourth is an accusation against the President and his ministry.

An unusually large number of persons attended the ball at the Elysée on Thursday night.

The *Debats* announces that the Conferences at Dresden are nearly concluded. The plenipotentiaries have arrived at a result which appears to be definitive. On the 12th they signed the following resolution:—"The German Confederation is reconstituted on a new basis. In place of seventeen votes, of which the old Diet was composed, the new one is reduced to eleven votes, which will be distributed as follows:—Austria, with all its States, including the Italian States, 2; Prussia, 2; Hanover, 1; Wurtemberg, 1; Kingdom of Saxon, 1; Bavaria, 1; Grand Duchy of Baden and the Two Lesses, 1; Saxe-Coburg, Saxe-Gotha, and Saxe-Weimar, 1; Mecklenburg-Schwerin and other little States, including the Hanseatic towns, 1; total, 11. The Presidency of the Diet is to belong alternatively to Prussia and Austria. The Diet will keep up an army of 130,000 men.

It appears from a letter in the *Cologne Gazette*, that Austria has contracted two loans, one of from forty to fifty millions from Russia, to be paid in silver; and the other of 100 millions, on state obligations at 6 per cent. In consequence of these loans, her paperissues are to be diminished considerably, and the silver currency increased.

The conferences between the Danish, Austrian, and Prussian Commissioners at Hamburg have been adjourned. General Thunen has gone to Bera for further instructions, and Count Meusdorf has gone to have an interview with Field Marshal Legedisch. Count Meusdorf's journey to Hanover, or rather to Hildesheim, must have reference to the promise of the commissioners with respect to the march of the troops. The Denmark commissioners are waiting for despatched from Copenhagen, and also the return of the Austrian and Prussian commissioners. Four thousand dollars have been recently sent from Hamburg to the fund for the succour of the Hessian officers who, from fidelity to the constitution, have thrown up their commissions.

Advices from Spain, dated Madrid, Jan. 11, have been received, stating that Queen Isabella had accepted the resignation of Narvaez, who, after taking leave of their Majesties, had set out for France. Pidal, it appears, had undertaken the formation of a new cabinet, of which he and Mon will form the base.

Letters from Malta make mention that about 11 past two, a.m., on the 6th instant, from a perfect calm there instantaneously arose a most terrific tornado, as is sometimes experienced on the coast of Africa, but fortunately it passed over in the short space of twenty minutes, when it fell as dead calm as before, though causing any injury either to the squadron or merchant shipping. At a few minutes after seven, however, the same morning, two very violent shocks of an earthquake were felt throughout the island, and were even perceptible on ship-board in the harbours, where sentinels at cabin-doors in the ships of war ran in answer to the bells which they found had been set ringing an invisible power. Similar confusion occurred in the most occupied hotels and lodging-houses, in so of which bedroom doors with slight fastenings were seen open, and the waiters running in all directions to alarm bells, when, in some cases, the lodgers were ad sprawled on the floors, having been jerked out of their beds by the first shock, and nearly frightened out of their senses by the second. The first was a lift, or upward movement; the second, immediately succeeding, a lateral shake (not an undulatory motion) from N. W. S.E. It was quite calm at the time, and shortly previous to the shocks heavy rain had fallen. No damage whatever has occurred, beyond the cracking of a few walls in some houses.

The Leader

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1851.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

A PEOPLE'S ADMINISTRATION.

UNTIL the People of England organize a Provisional Government for the conduct of movements in the popular interests, it is very unlikely that much progress will be made in obtaining popular power and Social Reform. An administration appointed by the People, to collect information for the People, to take the instructions of its constituents, and to promote the objects advantageous to those constituents, is only rendered the more necessary by the well-organized Officialism which rules in this country and throughout Europe. It is necessary also in order that the People may acquire a knowledge of foreign relations, and a power of action in foreign affairs. We believe that no one People in Europe can assert its independence, or secure even its own internal freedom, while it remains in a state of isolation. To prove this necessity, let us note the state even of France—a republic in name, but prevented from being a republic in reality, by an organized conspiracy of officialism at home, which can at any time obtain reinforcements from the organized officialism of other countries. It is to the interest of the English People that the trial of republican principles in France should be complete and successful; but, by something worse than a fiction of law, the English People is only able to act upon France through the Government of which Lord Palmerston is a Minister; and that Government has a very slight and indirect connection with the English People.

It is very desirable that this point should be thoroughly understood by our popular politicians, and made clear, not only to the People, but to those among the exclusive classes who can appreciate the value of concord in the country; still more to all "Reformers" who really desire to do anything.

A country with an exclusive franchise is a nation divided into two Peoples. That is the case with our own country at this moment. The enfranchised class possesses the Government, the laws, the funds, the army and navy, the official Church, and the subordinate public servants who perform public services throughout the country: this class is a separate People in the nation: it is endowed with the instinct of self-preservation, which gives it separate interests; it has separate views, opinions, and feelings; collectively, it has slight sympathies with the other part of the nation—its own instinct of self-preservation tends to make it act towards that other part in a spirit of antipathy and opposition. But opposition between a People possessing power and a People not possessing power implies, in the best regulated countries, the oppression of the powerless.

The unenfranchised class is governed by the representatives of the other class; those representatives appointing the supreme Executive; which in its turn appoints all the public servants. In boroughs there is some slight exception to this, with respect to local affairs; and there is no doubt that if "ratepayers" generally were to accustom themselves to a more vigorous and systematic action in local government, they might develop the power inherent in the nation at large. But we are speaking of matters as they stand; and at present, even the "ratepayers" by no means include the *whole* People. In England the enfranchised class is not a fifth of the whole country; from the titled and the very opulent down to the "respectable," the enfranchised class includes the whole of the moneyed classes; they constitute, therefore, a separate nation within the English nation. The unenfranchised class is the *other* four-fifths—is more than a "majority"—it is the body and bulk of the People; it is *the People*.

The English People, therefore, cannot claim the terms in which it is described by historians and political classifiers: it is a "free people" only in so

far as it is governed by the Money People. It has no Government of its own, but it is governed by the public servants of the Money People. The English People does not possess the land. The English People has great difficulty in retaining even the produce wrought by its own labour out of the land, because the laws relating to accumulated produce, or "property," are made by the representatives of the Money People. The English People does not even possess its own labour, because the laws relating to labour are made by the representatives of the money class. The English People, therefore, possesses neither its own labour, nor the land, nor the produce thereof; every individual of the English People performs his labour under decrees emanating from the Money People; he even stands upon any one foot of the land to which he is born, under the decrees, and therefore by the sufferance, of the Money People. He cannot lay his length upon his native land without permission of those decrees; even if he lies down to die in the broad face of heaven he commits an act of "vagrancy."

The consequences are not limited to present helplessness. The Money People not only makes the laws and appoints the servants by which the English People is governed, but it is able to keep up all the self-preserving defensive contrivances by which it continues to prevent the "encroachments" of the English People towards any power over its own land, its own labour, its own produce—it's own action, individual or collective. Opposed to the Money People, thus organized and fortified, thus able to act through the concentrated instrumentality of Government, the English People has not even a consultative voice—has not, even as a subject nation, any means of collective action—has not the means of collecting its own suffrages on any general question; and so it remains a prey to its own undirected and conflicting impulses. It is for these reasons that the emancipation of the People would be greatly facilitated, if it were to appoint a provisional government for the conduct of its own affairs—for the collection of its own suffrages and the promotion of its own objects.

In the present state of civilization it is impossible for one country to escape being acted upon by another; but in the actual constitution of nations, this international influence is administered in the interest of the Government-holding class. In England, for example, it is administered in the interest of the Money People; the interest of the English People being seldom regarded. Their advice, if it could be given,—which, for want of the suffrage, it cannot be in any authentic shape,—would be utterly scouted.

In France, popular opinions have made considerable progress; as we may judge by the fact, that the Socialists are reckoned to have placed a hundred and eighty members in the National Assembly. But wanting our long practice in local Government, the French nation does not possess any effective power proportioned to its innate strength. In the capital, where the various conflicting powers of the country are concentrated, the statesmen who sympathize with sectional interests or retain a gambling expectation of advancement through those interests, are combined against the nation: the Orleansists, the Legitimists, and the bureaucratic Republicans, however they may conflict with each other, will unite against any new manifestation of popular power; they have united with President Bonaparte so far as he seemed opposed to popular power, they were arrayed against him wherever he sympathized with the People. They showed their spirit when they upheld that personification of dagooning, Changarnier. The President is strengthened against the popular interests by foreign support: if the national representatives were not to give him the dotation of £120,000 a year which he asks, it is understood that he can have the money from Russia; who would be willing enough to invest any such trifling sum in fortifying an outpost of constituted authority. It is stated, with more than probability, that influential parties in France would welcome an occasion for reintroducing Austrian and Prussian armies: it is not to the interest of any of the Peoples subject to the Government at Vienna, that popular power should be crushed in France; but the resources of those subject Peoples can only be brought to bear upon France through the Emperor and his servants: Germany must sympathize with France, so must England; but Germany must act through its princes and diplomats, who have just set up a crowned culprit over the Hessians; England must

act through Lord Palmerston, who carries on all his transactions in secret, is permitted by the aristocracy and petted by the middle class, and has no connection with the English People. Thus, for want of true national administration, the Germans, the Italians, the Hungarians, the Bohemians, the Austrians, the French, the English, and the Irish, who all have interests in common, are kept apart; while the public servants who profess to act in their name, act against them all, and bring against each the united resources of all.

It is necessary for the domestic emancipation of the People that it should have an Administration of its own; it is necessary to the alliance of Peoples, that they should be able to act together through really national administrations.

PROTECTION OF THE POOR.

The Morning Chronicle is still performing its duty as "protector of the weak against the strong." It is still foremost of the daily press in this duty, although it has used reservations which its Commissioner, Henry Mayhew, justly and gallantly repudiated. It has drawn special attention to three cases before the public almost rivaling the Sloane case; all, however, happening in different kinds of abode, yet all illustrating the grossly defective state of our laws relating to the poor.

Hannah Hinton was engaged at Michaelmas last, at a statute "mop" in Worcestershire, by Mr. Lee, a farmer, of Kempsey, to be a nursemaid, at £2 a-year; her course of life was miserable; her food was bad and scanty; she lived in an atmosphere of vituperation; her master beat her with his leggings; her mistress with a stick. She appealed to a police court: the defence was evidence to character for "humanity"; but the chairman of the Bench naively pronounced the case to be one of "great and unnecessary cruelty," the defendants were convicted of a common assault, and fined £2 each, with costs.

The next case has recently been disclosed by the exertions of Mr. Osborne, chaplain of Bath gaol, although it occurred more than a year ago. In November, 1849, Elizabeth Hillier, who was within a few weeks of giving birth to an illegitimate child, applied to the relieving-officer of the Bath Union for assistance. Summoned before the Board of Guardians, she was told that she must go to her own parish, eighteen miles off. She walked three miles on the way, and was then exhausted; a poor woman took her in and gave her a little food; and she got back to Bath. Another poor woman procured her a shirt to make; and, on the proceeds of that single job, she lived until her confinement. Her child was found dead, concealed in a box: she was tried for "wilful murder," convicted of illegally concealing the birth, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment; and she found in the gaol that refuge and counsel which were denied to her, inhumanly and illegally, by the "Guardians of the Poor." At the instance of Mr. Osborne, the Poor-Law Commissioners order an enquiry, which is instituted, and results in an expression of "regret" by the Chairman of the Guardians.

In the Peckham-house Lunatic Asylum a pauper dies; an inquest is held, and a medical witness pronounces that the death was caused by violence. The body was greatly emaciated; the hair was infested with vermin; the flesh was bruised in various places; the bone of the upper arm was broken by a comminuted fracture, the broken end pressing into the armpit; four of the ribs were broken. Another lunatic charges Hill, an attendant, with the violence; but the coroner thought the evidence inadmissible; and the verdict was "Manslaughter against some person or persons unknown."

In a fourth case reported by the *Hampshire Advertiser*, at a coroner's inquest, the Southampton Board of Guardians was accused by Mr. Cooper, a surgeon, with hastening the death of Dinah Embury, by refusing the relief he had ordered: the woman was in a very diseased state, and he had ordered relief in the shape of nourishing food. The inquest stands adjourned, and while we write we do not know the verdict of the jury on the conflict between the medical idea of necessity and the dilatory neglect of the relieving officer; but it is certain that the woman died, and it is probable that starvation gained the race with organic disease in killing her.

In the first of these cases the victim does obtain some protection, and there is no death; but it is evident that she underwent three or four months of persecution because her ignorance was unenlightened as to her personal rights, and her helplessness was not taught where to seek protection.

The other three cases came directly under the cognizance of those administering the law in relation to paupers: in all three cases there is death, directly ascribable to the total want of protection; scrutiny into the causes of death is impeded by difficulty; and in one case, that of the pauper lunatic, it appears that a fellow-creature, in the most helpless of all conditions, is consigned to a custody over which the supervision is so imperfect, that possibly the real causes of a violent death may never be ascertained.

Hitherto, we say, the Poor Laws have been laws, not for the poor, but against them.

SCIENTIFIC CENSORSHIP OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.

In a late number of *Household Words* the following passages occur:—

"Perhaps there is no better guarantee of peace and progress to this country than the freedom of the press. Opinion is King of England, and Victoria is Queen. Every phase of opinion speaks through some book or journal, and is repeated widely in proportion to the hold it takes upon the public. Government is the representative of whatever opinion prevails; if it prove too perverse it falls.—Ministers change without a revolution. Then too, when every man's tongue is free, we are accustomed to hear all manner of wild suggestions. Fresh paint does not soon dazzle us; we are like children lavishly supplied with toys, who receive new gifts tranquilly enough.

"Is King Opinion an honest ruler? Yes. For the English people speak unreservedly their thoughts on public matters, and are open, though it be with honourable slowness, to all new convictions. We must add, however, as a drawback, that the uneducated class amounts to a distressing number in this country in proportion to the whole.

"Since the press in England has been actually free (and many of us can remember when it was not so), one fact has become every year more prominent amidst the din of parties. We have begun to see that, however much we are convinced of any one thing, those are not all and always fools who think the opposite. We get a strong suspicion of our individual fallibility; new facts come out, and display old opinions in an unexpected light. We respect our opponents, when they deserve respect, and on the whole are teachable."

There are countries where worship is paid to demons to allay their malice, while the gods are believed in but not adored. Something like this is the conduct of Charles Dickens, who lauds the freedom of the press as one of our institutions while his own newspaper is threatened with prosecution by the Government, but who has not subscribed a penny or written a line to help those who are doing their best to procure the repeal of a law which makes him a debtor to the Queen to the amount of many thousand pounds.

The English press is not free: it never has been free, and it never will or can be free if those who wear the chain hug it as an ornament, and boast of their liberty. The English press is subject to a censorship less visible but not less efficient than any that exists on the Continent. Instead of openly curbing the exuberance of the writer it lays a tax which puts down the *poor* reader, and thus constructed on scientific principles it performs the work of hindrance, warily, unobtrusively, and thoroughly, not strangling the dangerous thought of the patriot in the birth, but hindering its very conception by making its future rearing utterly impossible, and all without involving the government in the obloquy of individual persecution.

Besides the duties on paper and advertisements, which are of themselves nearly enough to make cheap newspapers impossible, we have a system of stamping newspapers so strict in theory and so plastic in practice that the Board of Inland Revenue can foster or prohibit a great portion of the press as they please. The Newspaper Act declares that every paper "containing public news, intelligence, or occurrences printed in any part of the United Kingdom to be made public" shall be deemed a newspaper, and be liable to stamp duty. No time is specified at which occurrences cease to be news; we have no doubt that the almanacs for 1850 which contained an account of the death of Queen Adelaide are illegal, nor would we predicate the contrary of those which make mention of that of Queen Anne. Nor is this all; any periodical published oftener than once in twenty-six days is a newspaper if it contain comments on news. Scarcely any periodical exists which does not come under one of these two heads, and a great many pamphlets which are not periodicals come under the first. In other words, it is almost impossible to publish either pamphlet or periodical without infringing the law. It is a custom lately introduced that, when a law is very tyrannical or impolitic, none but the Government are allowed to enforce it; this is the case with the

Newspaper Act; informers may write letters to the Board of Inland Revenue, but the Board alone can institute a prosecution—and this they may quash whenever they please; in short, they have the power to permit the law to be broken with impunity. And they do permit the law to be broken whenever they like; whom they will they chasten, and whom they will they let go. For instance, last March they interfered with the *Norwich Reformer*, a monthly publication, for containing a little column of news, called "Record of Progress;" but to this day they permit the *Freeholder* to fill all its columns with similar matter. They threatened to fine the *Wakefield Examiner* £40,000 for publishing slips, but they allow London papers to do the same without interference. The law gives the privilege of free postage to stamped newspapers, not to publications; but the Board allows fifty-one publications to be registered as newspapers for sake of the postage, and to circulate their town edition un-stamped, under pretence that they are not newspapers at all; so that the Post-office revenue is defrauded, and the regular newspapers (which are forced to stamp every copy) are exposed to unfair competition.

The principle on which the Board act, so far as they act on any principle at all, is to discourage cheap and good works containing politics; provided this subject is omitted, stamps are supplied for postage *ad libitum*; nay, considerable laxity is shown even under the head of politics, but the result is worse than it would be if the law were strictly enforced. The will of the Board is felt to be so precarious, that no one dares to embark a large capital in an unstamped political paper; the consequence is that the few cheap political publications of the day are not good, for they cannot afford to pay their contributors. The people are fed on indifferent political food, or, which Government likes still better, on trash which is not political at all.

Better far submit to an openly avowed censorship of the press than to this; better that the Home Secretary should appoint clerks to review every thing before publication, than that this irresponsible board of obscure individuals should have power to crush thought even before it is conceived. Better the scissors and the blank space in the newspaper than this vacancy of heart and soul which is found when the newspaper is (in certain quarters) not allowed to exist at all. And on what pretext is this scientific censorship defended? Does any Cabinet Minister claim it as one of our time-honoured institutions, under which we have become the "pride of the world and the envy of surrounding nations?" No; the Government admit its uselessness, and will, doubtless, soon admit its iniquity; but they want the £150,000 which it yields to the revenue, and the Liberal (?) members of the House of Commons support them in continuing it. Twenty-seven members who voted for Mr. Hume's motion voted against Mr. Gibson's motion against the Taxes on Knowledge, and forty-eight more absented themselves from the division: these are the real friends of the censorship of the press. Henry Aglionby and Joseph Brotherton, and Mr. Henry, chairman of the Lancashire Education Society, are the true supporters of the censorship of the press. No wonder, then, that it is thus upheld by the Premier. As a specimen of the conduct of the Board of Inland Revenue, we refer our readers to the correspondence between the Newspaper Stamp Abolition Committee and the Postmaster-General, which will be found in another part of our paper.

MOVEMENT OF SECTS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

DOOM hangs over the Church of England, but she has her choice of awaiting the slow decay of passive degeneracy, or breaking up by internal discord. If she venture upon action, indeed, the day for the slow and passive process seems to have passed: by flinging the whole State into the Anti-Catholic agitation, Lord John Russell has forced the Church of England into action; and no sooner does she move than her real condition is disclosed—she is not one homogeneous body, whole and sound, but a mere congeries of separate sects, awaiting disruption. For once at least the *Times* is out of date in mooting the antiquarian questions, why the statue of Jupiter becomes that of St. Peter, whether the Pope's chair belonged to Mahomet, and whether St. Peter was ever at Rome. The Pope occupies the chair, he fulminates bulls with "the seal of the fisherman," and Jupiter is kissed as St. Peter: these are "great facts," and no antiquarian lore can shake them. The Pope will not

be unseated by so much rationalizing as the Church of England can venture upon. And if you question the chair and keys for the Pope, how stave off the ugly question—Upon what ground stands the Church of England, which recognizes "reason" and private judgment? Put a parallel question to the Sacred Congregation at Rome, respecting the tenure of the Catholic Church, and the answer will be firm, unflinching, absolute. Put the same question to the Church of England, and you will have no answer, unless it be an evasive compromise between reason and dogma, advanced on no corporate authority; or a Babel uproar of divided claims and divers creeds. There is no central authority—no body that can speak for the Church of England. The Primate will speak only in replies that may cover every difference and fit every event. It is the Judicial Committee of Privy Council which professes to expound the tenets of the Church. Meanwhile the separate sects of which the Church consists have different objects, different councils.

The Bishop of Gloucester has just published a letter to his clergy, advising them to meet Romish proselytism by counter-proselytism among the "dense masses left destitute of adequate spiritual instruction from our present parochial system." Thus the Bishop confesses that the Church of England is dead to its true function! He announces a revival—a committee "to collect and employ a Reformation Memorial Fund," applicable to church extension. Very good; let the earnest members of the Church give full scope to their conviction, with all the zeal that is in them; honesty should oblige them to do so. But practical politicians will remember that if the Church of England enters into competition with other sects for possession of thought and soul, it should be treated merely as a sect, having equal freedom, but not more than equal freedom with every other sect. If it backs its mission with State authority, it becomes no better than an active English Popery, against which all defenders of freedom will unite.

Dr. Biber convenes a great High Church meeting, to ask a Royal intervention for restoring conciliation; the speakers describe the Church to be in the most deplorable condition—heaving with internal discord, embittered by internal calumnies, helpless for want of that synodal government which is possessed by the Romanist, the Scottish Presbyterian, the Wesleyan—in short, by every church except the Church of England. It is perfectly fair that the Church should have its synod: we cannot hear what it has to say, we cannot perceive the good which is in it, unless it have the means of corporate utterance. At the same time, it is plain that any definite utterance by any one of the sects now comprised within the Church of England, would jar so harshly against the others, that they would be shaken off; and even if the Church were to make good its claim to Convocation, the whole country would enforce the promise of Dr. Biber, that it should have no *secular* power—no power beyond its own limits, none, in fact, but a *sectarian* power.

In the congregation of St. Saviour's, at Leeds, we see the representatives of a third set within the Church. Under the "pressure from without" of the anti-Catholic agitation, the Bishop of Ripon has recently instituted an inquisition into the service of St. Saviour's and the ministrations of its vicar, the Reverend Thomas Minster. Six hundred and sixty of his parishioners have presented to him an address complaining of this treatment, and most particularly of being debarred from their "baptismal birthright," the use of confession. They say a "life of confession once begun is too precious to be broken off without the greatest injury, perchance, alas, even to the ultimate ruin of the soul." Their pastor entirely sympathizes with them:—

"But how," he says, in his reply, "are we to deal with the interposed authority of our Bishop? If he is right in treating the directions of the Church of England, not as instances of, but as rare exceptions to, her own rule on the subject, then, indeed, his Lordship will have done much to make our course clear. For then he will have proved that the Church of England, substituting for the Catholic rule a false one of her own, denies to her members what our Lord himself, in Holy Scripture and by the voice of his Universal Church, has provided for the souls of such as need it: and then it will be my duty to endeavour, as well by word as by example, to lead you to seek elsewhere that great gift, the denial of which by our Church would of itself destroy her claim to be your guide. But if the Bishop is wrong (as we fully believe he is) in supposing that the Church of England does not, in this particular, follow the rule of the Church Universal, then we have to perform the most difficult duty of so dealing with his authority as not to contradict or disobey that of our Church."



Here, then, we have a third sect on the point of secession. We can sympathize with the indignation of Mr. Minster's followers, in being debarred from rites which they believe to be spiritually healthful; but looking to the whole tenor of English orthodoxy, we cannot agree that their tenets are those of the State Church, and we do not see how they or their leader can honestly remain in that Church.

Grant a convocational power of redefining the doctrines or discipline of the Church in a more rigid sense, and there can be no doubt that, by the mere force of such a process, you would squeeze forth from its narrow bounds, on the one side, bodies like the congregation of St. Saviour's at Leeds, and on the other the extreme Evangelicals; and in another direction still, the numerous but disorganized number of Platonists, Rationalists, Universalists, and other unsettled persons who remain within the Church upon self-sufferance, re-calling an exoteric practice to an esoteric doctrine, by classical or Germanizing refinements. Portents of such movements reach us every day.

But considerations of this kind ought not to intimidate honest or truly religious men. Let us have an answer to that now unanswerable question—What is the Church of England? Let the Church, completely endowed with all the attributes of a Church, step forth in its perfection from the midst of the state-endowed sects, amongst which it is lost; let us see what it can do for humanity, for religion; but to do that, it must stand clear of the parasitical sects which now share its State abode, which render its doctrines confused, distract its counsels, and expose it to the contempt of the world through the weaknesses so feelingly described by its own sons.

THE "POST" ON LOW PRICES.

CONSIDERING the course which the *Morning Post* has always taken on the Free-Trade question, we hardly expected to find the proprietor of that journal the first to reduce the wages of its compositors. For many years our courtly contemporary has contended for Protection to the landlords, and no one has been more bitter in denouncing the modern "cheap and nasty" system produced by competition. It appears, however, that the *Post* has no objection to "cheapness" in the case of its own workmen. Dear food and high rents are to be advocated by every possible kind of sophistry; but, when it comes to the payment of wages, the case is altogether different. Here we have the capitalist employer taking advantage of the competition for employment which prevails among compositors, as in all other trades, to break down the wages of the workmen. "If any person offered to do the paper cheaper, such offer might be entertained." This is the very rule which Messrs. Nebuchadnezzar and Co. have always followed in reducing the wages of needlewomen, till they have at last brought them down to a point at which humanity is outraged.

SOCIAL REFORM.

EPISTOLE OBSCURORUM VIRORUM.

No. XXV.—ON THE PARTY WHICH CRIES DOWN ALL PARTY, AND REPINES THAT NOTHING IS DONE.

TO THORNTON HUNT.

Jan. 15, 1851.

MY DEAR THORNTON,—If, when it was first found impossible to put down free thought and free speech among the people, some shrewd enemy of progress had said to Kings, "Let us no longer make ourselves suspected by opposing knowledge: let us lead it to its own destruction. An extravagant philosophy, which shall captivate the people more than moderation, may do that which power cannot accomplish. Let us go down to the people in the guise of progress, and dictate the language of their friends"—if this had been suggested and executed, it would precisely account for what leaders of the people have since said and done.

No one has been hailed among modern disciples of progress more than that Editor who declared that "his paper was devoted to no one idea; was the servant of no sect; the organ of no party; the defender of no faith; the establisher of no creed; the expounder of no constitution; the interpreter of no oracle; the instrument of no dictator; the mouthpiece of no dogmatist; the advocate of no exclusive interest." Finally, you expect to hear the Editor avow himself of no stature, of no complexion, of no country, and of no colour, not knowing where he came from, and not able to find

his way home—for, if he carried out his principle, he would at least have no name and no paper, seeing that such things are exclusive, and not universal. I might refer you to the writings of one popular both in the Old World and the New, the late Margaret Fuller, whose pride it was "to belong to no party, to no school in literature or philanthropic effort." And one of the foremost expounders of European Democracy, Louis Blanc, has told us that "he owes it to himself to declare that he belongs to no class, nor caste, nor sect, nor party." If this advice did not come from people whose patriotism I cannot doubt, I should suspect that this pretended philosophy was the expedient of men who wished to escape the duties of citizens and the odium of reformers, under the plea of a patriotism too lofty to work and too refined to suffer. For if it be unphilosophical for the few to have an opinion, it is unphilosophical for the many to have one. If it be disgraceful for the leader to belong to a party, it is disgraceful for the People to be of a party; and if it be disgraceful for anybody to be anything, or do anything, when, I demand, will anything be done? Thus, by a strange and unexpected inversion of free thought and philosophical liberty, definitive action is ignored, and all the strength of union given over to tyranny. This teaching, I need not say, has not been lost upon the People. They have not been slow to learn the lesson of pompous isolation, and have become as impracticable as any one could wish, and their unions as much like ropes of sand as their greatest enemies could desire. The prescience of poetry, which oft outruns that of logic, induced Shelley to foretell and individualize this race by which we are surrounded, in that memorable stanza on Peter Bell—

"To Peter Bell all seemed one hue;
He was no Whig, he was no Tory—
No Deist and no Christian he:
He was so subtle, that to be
Nothing was all his glory."

Yet these are the people who complain that nothing is done—who revile the age for its want of purpose, and reproach reformers because they are disunited.

Whoever proposes to create a Party of the People may usefully ponder on the difficulty herein set forth. It is not necessary to specify what objects, Home or Foreign, the Party of the People should set before them. It will be time to do that when the intellectual possibility appears that a party can exist. Eighteen years ago how many trusted out of the then prevalent enthusiasm a political chivalry would arise which would permeate and elevate the nation; but instead, patriotism has risen no higher than the calculations of Trade; the People have been abandoned by the wise and subjected by ardent imbeciles. The British Democracy, instead of enjoying a free juvenility, a natural growth, has been prematurely stunted by having to bear the weight of an un-English mendacity and blatant incoherence. But the blame does not, however, rest with those who imposed such a yoke so much as with those who permitted it: for I have no sympathy with those whose only vocation appears to be deplored an evil which they have not the virtue or the courage to prevent.

In this country—self-sustained in its genius as in its mercantile resources—in this country, which invents nothing political and borrows nothing, solid liberty grows only out of our Saxon soil. We work by the light of precedent, as they do in law; and this habit is that which is meant by that term—that enigma of politicians—our "constitution." It is on this account that the formation of new parties is felt instinctively to be a fault, unless warranted by two conditions, namely, that the object is original, and such as no existing party will combine with theirs; and, secondly, there must be no machinery capable of carrying out the isolated purpose. These rules applied to current designs may serve to light us to results not otherwise evident.

This brings me to the last difficulty I will enumerate, which relates to the prejudices of co-workers. Time was when a man who was bad was incapacitated simply by his badness. Now a disreputable leader, or a confident charlatan, is the most powerful man in the nation. He can monopolize a party—he can engross progress—he can rule the multitude—because everybody leaves him undisturbed. To how many bodies could I point you where one or two strong men, of indifferent wisdom and indifferent character, disgust all good men around them, drive them away, and reserve

the mastery to themselves—and the good men are weak enough and foolish enough to allow it. Where now is the National Hall, once the hope of a new party? The difficulty there lay only in combating men who did not understand popular progress. What now is the Whittington Club—once so redolent of promise and liberality, that might have been the precursor of untold social improvements? But so soon as an adverse motion was carried, one after another of the liberal party, in each of these institutions, withdrew and abandoned everything to the narrow or the mistaken. We ought to hide from ourselves no longer the truth, that our Democrats have all Conservative instincts, and retire from the arena they have sought, unequal to the contest they have provoked. Democracy is the battle ground for ascendancy of opinion, where, whoever has the strongest truth will be the final conqueror. On this field courage is only one of the conditions of success. In order to win a man must be indefatigable as well as brave. It is a condition of Democracy that all *may* rise, and where *all* may rise it ought to be expected that the bad will sometimes come to the surface. But as soon as they appear they should be superseded. Legitimate means are always available to the indefatigable, whereby they can put the impediments down—the incoherent by the force of logic; the extravagant by demonstrative moderation; and the immoral by better example. Where any institution has a Democratic basis, such I have mentioned, the victory of the right party is inevitable—if the right party have but courage and industry. The reputation of the Chartist party in this country has sunk so low that few men believe it capable of elevation, or care to attempt it. One would suppose that no men of reputation or political knowledge have existed among the working classes for the last twelve years. Yet there has been no lack of them: but they have betrayed their order. It is a harsh word to write, but *treason* is the appropriate description of the course they have chosen for themselves. They who desert a cause are as criminal as they who betray; if by the desertion the cause is ruined. It is too often overlooked that they who desert a democratic contest give up the cause of democracy to its enemies. It is saying that the right cannot get to rule in democracy, and to say this is to condemn it.

A publicist, therefore, who has no interest to serve, nor vanity to gratify, will pause among existing parties before attempting the formation of new ones, it being better for progress and example to work with existing elements if possible. The Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association works in that portion of society who have legislative rights, but no public enthusiasm: the Chartist Associations, on the other hand, operate among that extreme of the People who have ardour without influence. If a man, therefore, has generous spirit, he sees where it is wanted—if he be wise, he sees where he can work. The indoctrination of Chartists with Socialist principles, and the re-expansion of Socialists into Political Reformers, will necessitate the junction of the two bodies, or the institution of a Democratic and Social Propaganda. This latter seems almost inevitable—but it will only be justifiable when it proves inevitable. In any case, let all earnest men choose their cause and take their side. Let us have the force of party without its vices of servility and acrimony. Let us, if we stand on the side of Democracy, let us lay aside the paralytic instincts of Conservatism, and fight the battle of opinion with the constancy of men who comprehend the conditions of their choice. And if, in passing from this subject, I may, without egotism, say a word to the inactive Reformers, who choke up the path of public progress, I will do it in the words of Colonel Thompson, whose years and experience better entitle him to use the language of admonition:—"Once more let me try to impress on all who dream of amending their condition by political reform, that the thing is not to be done by running their heads into a corner, and declaring that they will sulk there till Heaven sends them what they want. They must do as their fathers did. They must submit to be politicians, and to think that nothing passes in the universal world which an enemy cannot twist to their harm, or a friend to good. They must permit themselves to be thoroughly persuaded that the busy men are always taking care of themselves, and that unless they will consent to be busy too, they must be content with so much of the cake as nobody else can swallow!"

Yours, in private affection and political faith,
GEORGE JACOB HOLYOAKE.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them—*Edinburgh Review*.

THE number of the *Edinburgh Review* just issued contains an article which will greatly interest our readers, being nothing more nor less than a grand Whig demonstration of what English Socialism is in all its weakness. It is gratifying to find the *Edinburgh* thus boldly entering the arena, and condescending to notice speculations which at the present day occupy some of our most active intellects; gratifying, because the cause must be improved by all serious discussion of its principles. We know the readers of the *Edinburgh* are far more Socialist than its writers; but the lofty platform from which the *Review* speaks gives both authority to its own teaching and relative importance to the doctrines it opposes. That it condescends to combat the *Leader* is a compliment of which we are sensible; and that Mr. THORNTON HUNT will reply at length to the arguments by which his positions are assailed we may venture to promise our readers. Meanwhile we call attention to the article, and particularly to the frank manly spirit in which it is written; there is abundance of controversy but no obloquy; in striking hard blows our adversary uses no foul language—far from it. He considers us misinformed and erring thinkers, but he never stoops to snatch up a lump of dirt to throw instead of an argument. It is pleasant and hopeful to find Socialism arriving at the dignity of serious discussion.

It is a significant fact that French Literature has of late years undertaken to rehabilitate Courtezans, giving them a prominence which they have not had since the days of HORACE and CATULLUS. True it is that France has been celebrated for its Aspasia from the time of NINON DE L'ENCLOS downwards; but now, besides the halo thrown by VICTOR HUGO in *Marion de Lorme* and *Angelo*, by ALFRED DE MUSSET in *Carmen*, by GEORGE SAND in so many places, by BALZAC, and recently on the stage in *Le Moineau de Lesbie*, and EMILE AUGIER's last piece, *Le Jouer de Flute*—in all of which may be traced more or less of the impulsion of the imperishable *Manon Lescaut*—there is a tacit understanding that the *Lorette* (a name given to the class because the Church of Notre Dame de la Lorette raises its spire amidst their favourite quarter) is to figure as an actor, if not a principal, in all novels of the day. In England, “Oh, no, we never mention them!”

Such being the case, you may understand the sort of public interest, or rather fashionable curiosity excited by MARIE DUPLESSIS—the lovely and unfortunate girl who, from 1845 to 1847, was the ASPASIA of the hour—the object at which all opera-glasses were pointed in every public fête—a girl dying of consumption—prodigal, reckless, fond of dress, of dissipation, of anything that would kill the hours which were killing her! We can imagine something of the “rage” created—we who, last season, beheld a far more ignoble ASPASIA sending furtive glances over her bouquet to her admirers—we who have beheld her openly courting admiration, seated in a box next to the Duchess and her lovely daughters—we who have heard her repartees circulated in salons, their cynicism passing for wit, their effrontery for impudence!—but the Parisian idol had in all points the advantage. It was well she died so young. She was saved at least from the fate with which HORACE heartlessly reproaches LYDIA, whom he once loved—that of growing old, and seeing all her admirers desert her, while she wept over departed grandeur:—

“ Invicem mæchos anus arrogantis
Fiebis in solo levis angiportu,” &c.

She died; her goods and chattels were put up to auction. All Paris attended. Women of high station were to be seen visiting the boudoir of the

departed syren, admiring its elegance, perhaps hoping there to learn the secret of her spells. The sale was an event. Her comb and brush were bought at fabulous prices. The very gloves she once had worn were bought; locks of her hair, billets doux, portraits—everything brought money—and her family was enriched by the inheritance of her from whom they turned aside with a shudder when she drove past them in the street.

Literature came to crown these honours. The son of ALEXANDRE DUMAS boldly chose her as the heroine of a novel, *La Dame aux Camélias*; the success was so great that it is now reprinted in a classic form, with a preface by JULES JANIN. If you have not read this story read it. DUMAS the younger has shown excellent feeling in the work, no less than considerable talent. One may deplore, indeed, the fact that a youth should thus early in his career choose such a subject—one so unlike the freshness, the illusion, the poetry of youth!—but with that reservation we have nothing but praise to give.

Far otherwise is it with the son of PAUL DE KOCK, who also throws upon our table his romance of a lorette. *Brin d'Amour* is an ignoble book, and coming from a young man a shocking book. All that is vulgar and odious in the subject he dwells upon—all that might be philosophical or humanly interesting is left out of sight. PAUL DE KOCK is indecent, but his son is depraved. The books of the one betoken a coarse mind—with many glimpses of a better nature, and with much genuine drollery—but the other has an essentially dissolute tone, unredeemed either by humour or humanity.

The literary event of the week in France has been GEORGE SAND's new drame, *Claudie*—performed with immense success, and, according to JULES JANIN, the success was deserved. It is a drame idyll: the action passes wholly amidst rustic scenes, and a perfume as of new made hay impregnates the air; but the story itself is one of suffering and crime. GEORGE SAND has boldly ventured from the beaten track of dramatic morality and startled her audience with the novelty of truth.

TIME, THE AVENGER.

Time, the Avenger. By the Author of *Emilia Wyndham*. 3 vols. Colburn.

THE authoress of *Time, the Avenger*, has had so many successes, and has delighted so large a public in her day, that she can afford to be told of the lamentable falling off exhibited by her late writings, and especially by this, her latest. There were scenes in *The Admiral's Daughter* which none but a woman of unusual talent could have written; *Mount Sorel* also had delightful passages; and *Emilia Wyndham*, contemptible as a literary production, had a power of moving to tears which all ladies acknowledged. Instead of growing more dexterous in the use of materials and invention of scenes, she has grown more and more careless, and scrambles together a mass of indifferent fragments, without even troubling herself to shape them into the semblance of a whole. She has written as if to rival the rapidity of James were the one thing needful in an author; this hurry-scurry of composition, which a Scott or a Dumas manage with some success, is fatal to the slender resources and very limited ability of our authoress; and we look upon her present work as an insult to Literature deserving castigation.

Copiousness of twaddle has long been her besetting sin; and this now assumes airs of immense philosophy and religious teaching. “I fear I am very serious,” she says in her imposing way, opening a chapter; “indeed I have been reproached with it. I never begin to meditate upon human life but it will present itself to me as a deeply serious thing”—and we are then informed that *Hamlet* has greater hold upon our affections than *The Merry Wives of Windsor*—from which we may infer that this “serious” novelist ought to have a very powerful effect upon us. Impossible to robe oneself in the professor's gown with greater solemnity! we—as reverent students—sit hushed to listen to the revelations of life this great teacher will vouchsafe to us.

We have first a terrific picture of remorse, Ken-

sington Gardens are not vast enough to contain the swelling agony of that “self-concentrated man who is shaken to his being's centre” by a passion all the magniloquence of the dictionary's hardest words cannot describe. He plunges amidst the shadows of the trees, and we follow him, curious to know what is the danger “the intense sense of his deliverance from which shook his inmost soul—overwhelming, as with a mighty tide, every foregone system of thought—submerging, as by one vast wave, every former habit of mind—invading that inner citadel of his heart—breaking into strongholds, and rendering his once-steadfast soul one chaos of confused and tempestuous thought and feeling.” There is more of the same chaste style; but that fragment will enable you to understand how a gentleman about whom one can write such superb sentences, as he wanders in Kensington Gardens, must be an object of thrilling interest. All this “piling up the agony,” as the Americans call it, is not without a purpose. We have here the exhibition of a great moral crisis—a moral regeneration so deep and so vast that the authoress cannot even begin her picture without this solemn preparation:—

“ The enterprise I am about to undertake is the most difficult of any one I have as yet attempted, and possibly to the mere novel reader, may prove the least interesting and attractive.

“ But as Milton, in the deep seriousness of an earnest mind, invoked for aid before he commenced his divine song—not the muses who preside over the fine arts; not those powers of grace and beauty which fascinate the imagination of mankind, but that heavenly influence whose still small voice persuades the reason and strikes the inner heart. That spirit

“ Which on the secret top
Of Oreb or of Sinai did inspire
That Shepherd who first taught the chosen seed,
In the beginning, how the Heavens and Earth
Rose out of Chaos.”

So I, in my humble, but, I trust, as honest purpose, invoke the same high Power for assistance in the delineation of a yet more mighty work than that of reducing the rude voices of chaos into harmony. The work by which the chaos of the inner soul—its dark contention of warring tempers and undisciplined desires is reduced to order; and the new man, in his beautiful perfection of moral symmetry, issues forth from amid the confused strife of thought and passion. Springing into fresh being under the influences of the great Spiritual Power; that ‘Son of Righteousness’ who hath risen upon the earth ‘with healing on his wings.’

“ A mighty task, indeed.”

A task of this kind might have made some serious spirits pause to prepare themselves by long and patient meditation; but our authoress is not the woman to have misgivings; she has read the book of Life from the preface to the imprint, and can tell you all about it at a moment's notice. Listen and learn!

That gentleman “whose foregone systems of thought” have been swamped as we saw, is a cold, stern, hard-headed man of sixty-five, who has strolled enough with the world without flinching, but now at last is struck. By what? By calamity? Yes, but of a peculiar kind. It is not loss of fortune that would “submerge his foregone systems of thought;” it is not the death of those he loves that makes his soul “start as from a death-trance; gazes astonished and appalled at this summons to account, &c.” It is not crime; he is no criminal. Yet his remorse is so terrific that even our authoress's affluence of diction fails to represent it adequately. Having devoted thirteen pages to telling us what it was not, she condescends to let us into the secret. Mr. Craiglethorpe has been accusing a fellow-creature unjustly—he believed him to be guilty, and now that he knows the accused is innocent and is acquitted, this agony of remorse seizes him because conscience tells him that he had not been guiltless of malignity in the prosecution, that he had not used the arm of the law for the purpose of protecting society, but also for the purpose of gratifying his own dislike.

This it is which submerges, as by a mighty wave, &c.! But you cannot from our account of it form a true notion of the monstrous—the hyperbolical absurdity of this “lesson of life.” Not only does the horror at his crime, and the ecstasy of joy at his deliverance from it, submerge all foregone systems of thought, and drive him like a maniac about Kensington Gardens, it actually brings on the great Moral Crisis of Spiritual Regeneration which is the subject of the book! It there and then makes him poetical, and for the first time in five-and-sixty years reveals to him the beauty of the moon—the majesty of nature!

For you must know our sensitive friend with the grey hairs has up to this time been a most hard unspiritual man. He has never thought once about

Providence; no, not even when he escaped from a shipwreck:—

"He had passed through the perils of a tremendous shipwreck, and he had been saved. Yet there even,
When the ship hung far aloft,
High on the broken wave."

even in that tremendous moment he had not been so strongly moved as he was now. His heart had not been invincibly turned towards that Being

"Who was not slow to hear,
Nor impotent to save."

"No, and when he found himself safe and sound, alive and upon dry land, not even then, had his own great deliverance, where nearly twice five hundred men went down, awakened in him any new sense, or turned his thoughts in gratitude to that Power, that Providence which had saved him."

But, hardened as he is, he becomes softened by this ramble in Kensington-gardens, and his "chaos of confused and tempestuous thought and feeling" shapes itself into a paradise of moral beauty: he becomes—and at once—as generous, submissive, forgiving, and Christian as he had before been the reverse of all this!

Now, for a work having lofty pretensions like the present, you will own that such a basis is somewhat fantastic; yet we venture to predict that it will be eulogized for its philosophic purpose and religious tone. The truth is, it is full of trash as nauseous as that which brought the Minerva Press into discredit, and perhaps the more hurtful, because it has cant to mask it.

If it is weak and silly as a philosophical view of life, it is no less silly as a tale—nay, it is worse than silly, it is immensely wearisome. Not even the generous use of "skipping" can alleviate the tedium. Incoherent, fragmentary, untrue, and uninteresting, we were only led on through the volumes by the amusement occasionally offered in its sforisms. The authoress is given to reflection—generally this tendency wanders into sermonizing—but occasionally it takes the form of detached epigram: as thus—

"Ah! why are we so blinded to our faults till the irrevocable hour is past!"

That luminous remark stands by itself as a paragraph, and invites meditation. There is a sigh in it, befitting the grave and saddened thinker. In the following severe truth we read a sterner mood:—

"Through our faults we are vulnerable. The strongest characters are assailable there."

What we are now about to quote puzzles us:—

"Most Englishmen have something of the Hypolite in them."

To clear it up, we must first suggest that Hypolite is meant for Hippolyte in Racine's tragedy of *Phédre*. Now, Hippolyte is a chaste and bashful young gentleman who will not respond to the unequivocal advances of Madame Phédre. We were not before aware that this coyness was characteristic of our young countrymen. Sad Josephs of some of them!

In another place, after the novel remark that in every brother, be he never so big a sinner, there is some latent goodness, she is tempted to qualify it by saying almost every brother, when she thinks of "Robespierre, and Thomas Paine, and the slave captains." That Robespierre had some human qualities only the strange ignorance of this writer could ignore; and why Thomas Paine should be selected as a type of incarnate vice we are at a loss to comprehend, unless the writing of the *Age of Reason* is to be his diploma. But, dear Madam, where is your Christianity that can so judge Thomas Paine's sincere act? He was mistaken, if you will, in his opinions; but he wrote that book while momentously expecting to mount the scaffold, and it was at least sincere. And does it not occur to you that, even after writing the *Age of Reason*, if he had been shaken to his being's centre by some such calamity as that which befel your hero, he also might have had every foregone system of thought submerged as by a mighty wave, &c., and been awakened to the beauty of the moon and to a recognition of Providence? So that some good may have been latent even in the author of the *Age of Reason*.

We close *Time, the Avenger*, with a very strong disapproval of its story, its philosophy, and its style; but we cannot so dismiss the authoress without once more recording our sincere admiration of the *Two Old Men's Tales*—notably, that of *The Admiral's Daughter*. Had *Time, the Avenger*, but been written in that style, with that knowledge of the working of passion and that free sketch of character, we would have filled our columns with praise as hearty as our condemnation is now unqualified.

SCHLOSSER'S HISTORY OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

A History of the Eighteenth Century and the Nineteenth, till the Overthrow of the French Empire, with particular reference to Mental Cultivation and Progress. By F. C. Schlosser. Translated, with a Preface and Notes. By D. Davison, M.A. Vols. 1-7. Chapman and Hall.

(Second Notice.)

At the close of the former article we said that the theory of Progress and the theory of Equality might be taken as the texts for the whole philosophy of that epoch known as the eighteenth century. A glance at them is all we can give here. We will take two celebrated works as the exponents of these ideas, for it is grievously to misapprehend the character of literature not to detect in celebrated works the expression of the age in which they appeared. This misapprehension, Thomas Babington Macaulay is chargeable with, in respect of the first work we select—Perrault's *Parallèle des Anciens et des Modernes*. In his brilliant paper on Sir W. Temple he says:—"A most idle and contemptible controversy had arisen in France touching the comparative merit of the ancient and modern writers." Now as far as the literary criticism of this controversy is concerned we perfectly agree with Macaulay: but there was a deeper meaning underneath the squabble, a philosophical conception, of which this dispute was the literary application, and that conception was: the progressive improvement of the human race.

People generally are but little aware how very modern this conception of Progress is, even although the conception itself be still rejected by hundreds. Auguste Comte has shown how impossible the conception was to the ancients, with their limited experience, and how naturally it arose from the manifest progress of positive science, about which there could be no dispute, and was first distinctly promulgated by the great mathematician—Pascal. The extension made by Perrault to literature was only the expression of a notion dimly pervading society, that in moral and intellectual stature the moderns were decidedly in advance of their ancestors; and that indeed it was a law of nature that it should be so. Beginning with a modest statement, such as Bacon threw into an apt formula, "Antiquity is the youth of the world," this notion has gradually become so familiarized with our thoughts that we can with difficulty imagine men discrediting it. As a principle it is most destructive, for it throws to the winds as "childish" and "immature" those notions which to our forefathers were the highest wisdom.

Quite as destructive, but by no means quite as true, was that metaphysical figment about Equality. We do not, of course, mean the equality which man shares with man—equality in the eyes of Law and of Conscience; but that intellectual equality which universal experience contradicts, but which French metaphysics evolved from its false principles. This equality finds its most absolute expression in Helvetius. It is the want of a sound philosophy of history which makes people regard this sophism, viz., of all men's intellects being naturally equal, and the diversity visible in them arising solely from education—as the product of an eccentric paradoxical thinker. It was not Helvetius who wrote *De l'Esprit*—it was the eighteenth century.

The theory grew out of the tendencies of the reigning philosophy which, starting from Locke, and his too exclusive a consideration of the sensuous origin of all knowledge, had come to regard external influences as omnipotent, without making due allowance for the *organism* upon which those influences were to act. Throughout this period we note the same radical mistake. To it must be attributed those deplorable and universal errors respecting the power of education and of government to modify arbitrarily the condition of humanity—placing in mere changes of *form* a power which could only result from *vital* changes—so that in the great outbreak of the French Revolution, it was believed that by *decrewing* fraternity and adopting a Republican form of Government all the evils under which society then laboured would vanish. A terrible reaction was the retribution of this error. But the error is popular still. Men look to *forms* of government as the great objects to be preserved or to be destroyed; forgetting that society is organic.

But we must not write an essay in place of a review. Enough has been said to indicate the propriety with which Schlosser opens his history by an examination of Locke and his contemporaries. Locke, indeed, may be said to have inaugurated the insur-

gent philosophy of the eighteenth century; and his influence is well stated by Schlosser. Generally, indeed, we may remark, that Schlosser's literary criticism is almost worthless as regards belles lettres; but valuable as pointing to the position of literature in an historical sense. It is as an historian rather than as a critic he deals with it; and the value of his observations is little deteriorated by the mediocrity of his talent. This remark applies peculiarly to the chapter on English and German Literature.

In casting about for an extract, we are puzzled where to choose amidst so many passages; but this perhaps will be the most acceptable, as few persons know much of

THE ILLUMINATI.

"Weishaupt and the no inconsiderable number of persons in Bavaria who shared his principles and convictions were influenced by the example of their opponents themselves to institute another order with a constitution similar to theirs, with a view to counteract and defeat the secret machinations of the Jesuits. Weishaupt and his illuminati, as the pretended masters of the light, wished to avail themselves of the folly and absurdity of decorations, symbols, and initiation, in order to draw the people out of the power of the priests into that of their own. These masters of the light and their light itself were indeed of such a description that the people would have gained nothing by the change: but when or where have the people, who are everywhere oppressed, gained anything by the change of their leaders and rulers? That moreover an order, founded by an obscure professor of canon law in an obscure German university, and reduced to form by the cooperation of a student (Von Zwackh), then only twenty years old, should have found adherents and partisans through the whole of Germany, in the Netherlands, in Denmark, in Sweden, and even in Spain, can only be comprehended and explained by a still fuller acquaintance with the connection of the enthusiasm, jugglery, and imposture of the secret orders of that time and their relation to freemasonry. We have already referred to the origin of a belief in the power of superstitious prayers, incantations, secret arts, and associations in general; we must here go more at length into the history of the freemasons. The most of the persons whom we shall have occasion to mention, were either, in the proper sense of the word, impostors, or insignificant, or, like Knigge, altogether contemptible, because their schemes were merely founded upon hopes of advantage or pleasure, and they were not only strangers to all high and noble human feelings, but despised and abused them. So much for the leaders; as to the associations themselves, we can neither say so much evil of the freemasons and the illuminati as Barruel and Germans of his stamp have said, nor bestow upon them such commendations as the enemies of the Jesuits and their doctrines are accustomed to do. The men whom we are about to mention, their orders, and the longing after secret initiations and revelations, appear to us not to have been the causes but the effects of a new order of things which had been slowly developing its form, and consequently means and instruments of that eternal order, and of that invisible ruling Providence, by whose power kingdoms and worlds come into existence and disappear, and which sometimes uses the external for the promotion of the internal, and sometimes the internal for that of the external. . . . Besides, almost all the dealers in secrets sought to avail themselves of symbols, hieroglyphs, and freemasons' lodges for the promotion of their objects, and the innocent folly of this secret society was much and variously abused. Initiation, oaths, solemnities, subordination, and ranks allured them to orders; symbols and hieroglyphs inspired simpletons and fools with the hope of learning important secrets for their money; men of the world, lovers of pleasure and adventurers sought and found in these orders, protectors, acquaintances, recommendations, and social enjoyment, which was seasoned by its exclusive character. In these secret societies the doubter might more freely express his opinions than in the common intercourse of social life, where they were carefully and minutely watched by both the civil and the ecclesiastical police. Those who wished to avail themselves of an order in these times for the promotion of their objects, allured their brethren, the freemasons and others, by the forms of strict or lax observance, of Zinendorians, Rosicrucians, Martinists, and Templars. Princes, counts, barons, idlers, and men of wealth sought for the philosopher's stone in these secret associations, for wisdom gained without exertion or toil, and therefore the privileges of knowledge for the privileged. People of rank were especially attracted, because they, as well as the higher classes in general, in their ignorance of the nature of human training, imagined there was a nearer road to true wisdom than the usual beaten and arduous path. It has been so from the beginning of the world; those who have found the way prescribed by Providence for the attainment of the objects of human efforts to be tedious, who become weary of labour, anxiety, and thought, have always placed their confidence upon miraculous revelations and some sudden disclosure of the secret of certain signs and symbols.

"Frederick II. himself continued to belong to this order till after the Silesian war; he ceased to be a member shortly before the commencement of the Seven years' war, at the very time when these orders began to be abused for every species of deception; and he also commanded such of his ministers of state as belonged to the order, to desist from visiting their lodges. The lodges and secrets of the freemasons began to be abused by impostors from the year 1760 till 1770, some of whom exercised such a considerable influence upon the order, which was then very widely extended. . . . The order of the illuminati, as originally founded in Bavaria and for Bavaria, was altogether dissimilar to the

order of freemasons, and all that its founders knew of ceremonies, consecrations, and pretended secrets was very insignificant: Knigge was the first who gave the order a form, which he borrowed from that of the freemasons. This nobleman and bon-vivant was very far indeed from having any tendency towards mysticism and a contemplative life, since he, as well as Weishaupt and Von Zwackh, troubled himself very little about morality; but he was thoroughly acquainted with outward life and all its intrigues. Moreover, in the then existing condition of things in Bavaria, it might have been expedient and useful to found another order for the promotion of enlightenment, after the model, but expressly in opposition to that of the Jesuits and mystics; and these circumstances induced many of the noblest men of our German plains, whose names are to be found in the lists of the illuminati, to unite with such persons as Weishaupt, Zwackh, and Knigge. Among the names of those Bavarians who were persecuted as illuminati, there will be found those of the most distinguished and best men of the country, but at the same time many, such as that of Montgelas and others, of a very different description. The principles of the illuminati, however, even opened the eyes of those last mentioned, for they afterwards combated with success the prevalence of the monkish spirit in the high offices of state, which from the earliest times had proved ruinous to Bavaria. In May, 1776, Weishaupt and his anti-jesuitical friends and hearers in Landshut first conceived the idea of founding a new order, which in its first, or what was called its mineral degree, was to be an institution for the cultivation of a free spirit in a country in which no man durst venture to utter a free word. In consequence of Von Zwackh's exertions among the young men and students, the order not only soon obtained many members, but as soon as two other persons, contemporaneously with Von Zwackh, began to make a business of seeking for recruits for the order, it was extended amongst other classes and ranks.

"Von Zwackh had procured some knowledge of the external forms of freemasonry, of its symbols, degrees, and initiation, with which Weishaupt was wholly unacquainted. The founders of the new order proceeded, according to their imperfect knowledge of masonry, which was then in Bavaria in a melancholy condition, to establish gradations and classes in the new order, which at first deceived many freemasons, and led them to look upon it as a branch of freemasonry. The order of the illuminati, which was instituted in this manner as one of the numerous sects of freemasonry, which was then very widely extended, included in its ranks, as early as 1778, twelve lodges in Catholic Bavaria, Franconia, and the Tyrol. Such distinguished men as Born and Sonnenfels in Vienna were received into the order, and these were the persons who afterwards, under Joseph II., gained great renown by the extension of a system of education in Austria in accordance with the demands and improvement of the age. The order first obtained a completely new form when Herr von Knigge, who was a Hanoverian baron, devoted his attention to its constitution, and applied his accurate knowledge of the order of freemasons in such a way to that of the illuminati, that he and such like men were afterwards enabled to avail themselves of the freemason lodges, as all the fanatics, visionaries, ghost-seers, alchemists, martinists, and magnetizers had long previously done.

"This Herr von Knigge, who became so prominent a member of the illuminati in 1780, and was discreditably known under the name of *Philo*, which he adopted as his appellation in the order, was, like his antagonist Zimmerman, a native of Berne; he, however, lived as counsellor and court physician in Hanover, and became one of those German celebrities who knew well how to practise upon and deceive the world; an art which, as is well known, is a much surer path to renown than truth, which only a few persons either understand or respect. Both of these men, by their connection with the world, their access to fashionable life, their knowledge of the means of flattering their patrons, and a superficial style of writing suited for the usual class of sentimental novel-readers, understood how to obtain a name and to exercise an influence in society, which has given them an importance in history which is precisely in the inverse ratio of their merit. Knigge, by his residence as chamberlain in Weimar, and his sojourn in Frankfort and Heidelberg, had been in the very centre of mysticism and freemasonry, and made himself minutely acquainted with everything which was calculated to promote such objects as those which persons like Zimmerman and Knigge regard as the highest and most important in life. In order to make trial of everything, Knigge even became a Catholic, and then again a Protestant; mysticism and orders, priesthood and enlightenment were equally welcome and acceptable to him for the realization of his designs, whilst they were hated by Zimmerman for the advancement of his, and towards the end of the century they haunted him like a ghost, till he was finally driven actually mad. Both Knigge and Zimmerman attained their respective aims,—their names became universally known. Knigge first played a prominent part in all the orders, and then he became almost as celebrated a writer as Kotzebue, with whom he might be compared, except in the department of the popular drama. He spent his whole life in going from place to place and in the indulgences of the table, and at length died as captain and scolar in Bremen. Zimmerman received orders or distinctions from several princes; he was in correspondence with Catherine and Frederick, wrote at first only upon subjects which he understood, but at last upon all possible subjects of which he knew nothing, and it was precisely these writings by which he gained the highest reputation. All the newspapers teemed with praises upon his thick volume on *Solitude*; the great world regarded him as a prophet; whilst every honest man, every man who was a master of style, or capable of deep thought or true feeling, looked upon him as a miserable wight; and Lichtenberg of Göttingen, the greatest satirist of Germany, treated him as such."

LIVES OF MISERS.

Lives and Anecdotes of Misers: or the Passion of Avarice Displayed. By F. Somner Merryweather, author of "Bibliomania in the Middle Ages," "Glimmerings in the Dark," &c. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

We had recently to commend Mr. Merryweather for a pleasant unpretending book of antiquarian gossip, and have now to thank him for another amusing volume. His *Anecdotes of Misers*, though for the most part neither rare nor extremely curious, have a sort of collective importance. But it would have been well had he limited his task to that of simple compilation; all that he offers in the way of philosophy being so feeble that its absence would be a charm. The passion of avarice with all its varieties and collaterals is a subject to task the psychologist; and had Mr. Merryweather been a psychologist he might have made the present amusing volume an important one; not possessing the requisite moral observation and analytic power to render his remarks suggestive, it is a pity he allowed himself to fall into trite commonplace. Take this as a sample:—

"It is difficult to discover the motives of hoary avarice—with limbs bending beneath the weight of years—with hair blanched by the snows of many winters—sans sight—sans teeth—sans everything—yet glowing over gold which he can never live to want, and greedy for acquisitions which can procure no happiness. We can only imagine that the mind, so absorbed by avarice, is rendered imbecile to all other feelings; or that the thoughts become so engrossed in their mammon worship as to forget the flight of years, and the phantom of the tomb."

This kind of rhetoric is simply fatiguing. Ask its meaning and you will see at once that the author had little or none when he wrote it. The "motives" of avarice are "difficult" to discover; and Mr. Merryweather can only imagine these motives to be the "absorption of the mind by avarice" which renders it "imbecile to all other feelings." Avarice is thus the motive of avarice; it is avarice because avarice forgets "the flight of years and the phantom of the tomb."

Enough of this philosophy. The anecdotes are better than the commentary. Here is one of

A PENITENT DUKE.

"If the reader will take the trouble to enquire, he may glean some curious anecdotes of a 'noble' miser of the present day, whose parsimony is so great that he deprives his domestics of their perquisites, and has been known to have sold the refuse fat from his own kitchen for the trifles which it produced. This descendant of a valiant race may be seen, in the locality of his own mansion, with a huge basket on his arm, wandering from shop to shop, and from stall to stall, to pick up bargains or thrifty provender for his household. He not only attends to the economy of his kitchen, but even to the most minute affairs of his farm; his dairy receives no small share of his attention, and he will sometimes descend to measure out and sell his milk in retail to the neighbouring villagers. One morning, it is related, a little girl presented herself at the castle, and giving in her jug and penny, was served by his grace, who, pleased with her appearance, gave the little damsel a kiss, telling her at the same time that she would always now be able to say that she had been kissed by a duke. 'Yes,' replied the little rustic, 'but you took the penny, though!' We could point to many such instances of aristocratic penury, but we do not wish to draw our illustrations from contemporary characters."

Surely the concluding assertion is a little exaggerated? Does the author really know *many* such instances of aristocratic penury?

The following story suggests strange reflections:—

"In the year 1762 an extraordinary instance of avarice occurred in France. A miser, of the name of Fosse, who had amassed enormous wealth by the most sordid parsimony and the most discreditable extortion, was requested by the Government to advance a sum of money as a loan. The miser, to whom a fair interest was not inducement sufficiently strong to enable him to part with his treasured gold, declared his incapacity to meet this demand; he pleaded severe losses and the utmost poverty. Fearing, however, that some of his neighbours, among whom he was very unpopular, would report his immense wealth to the Government, he applied his ingenuity to discover some effectual way of hiding his gold, should they attempt to institute a search to ascertain the truth or falsehood of his plea. With great care and secrecy he dug a deep cave in his cellar; to this receptacle for his treasure he descended by a ladder, and to the trap door he attached a spring lock, so that, on shutting, it would fasten of itself. By-and-by the miser disappeared; enquiries were made; the house was searched; woods were explored, and the ponds were dragged; but no Fosse could they find; and gossip began to conclude that the miser had fled with his gold to some part, where, by living incognito, he would be free from the demands of the Government. Some time passed on; the house in which he had lived was sold, and workmen were busily employed in its repair. In the progress of their work they met with the door of the secret cave, with the key in the lock, outside. They threw back the door and descended with a light. The first object upon which the lamp was reflected was the ghastly body of

Fosse the miser, and scattered around him were heavy bags of gold and ponderous chests of untold treasure; a candlestick lay beside him on the floor. This worshipper of mammon had gone into his cave to pay his devotions to his golden god and became a sacrifice to his devotion! What must have been the sensations of that miserable man—what the horrors of his situation, when he heard the door close after him, and the spring lock effectually imprison him within his secret mine! How bitter must have been the last struggles of that avaricious soul! How terrible must have been the appeals of conscience within that sordid sinner! How each bag must have disgorged its treasure, and each piece of gold have danced, in imagination, around him as a demon! How haunted, when the gnawing pangs of starvation came slowly upon him, must have been that yellow vision; his very heart must have grown sick at that which he once so dearly loved! Gold in bags; gold in chests; gold piled in heaps; gold for a pillow; gold strewn upon the ground for him to lie upon! Whilst his taper lasted, turn where he would his eyes, nothing met them but his gold. But when the last flicker died away, and the miser was left in darkness to dwell upon his coming death, and upon his many sins, how awful must have been the agonies of conscience! How, surely, amidst the gloom of that sepulchre of gold, must the poor whom he had oppressed, and the unfortunate whom he had ruined by his avarice, have risen up to reproach him; and, when the mind became fevered by its last deadly struggles, how the faces of haggard poverty, of hate, and loathing for the miser, must, in one loud, discordant chorus, have cried for vengeance and retribution upon his guilty soul!"

One of the best things in the book is the following epitaph on miser:—

HERE LIES JEMMY TAYLOR,

alias

GRIFUS, THE SOUTHWARK MISER,
Who lived and died single to save Expenses,

HIS MACHLESS ECONOMY

Could only be compared to his singular Resolution in SELF-DENIAL.

He was so disinterested in his Disposition, that he never Preferred one Person to another, but cast an equal Eye upon all his Acquaintance.

His mind was of such a peculiar Cast, that he could neither Hear the Tide nor behold the Face of the Wretched; And, to avoid mi-taken Acts of Charity,

Never bestowed the smallest Mite upon the Poor, until Death, that shakes the strongest Frame, whispered,

"TA LITTLE give something to the CHURCH."

Known by the Avaricious for his vast Wealth,

Detested by the Indolent for his severe Virtues,

And regretted by none of his FRIENDS UPON THE CHANGE,

He gave up this Life, with Fears of a Better,

IN THE SEVENTH YEAR OF HIS EXISTENCE;

And has left his Relations perfectly resigned

TO THE WILL OF HEAVEN.

For having withdrawn, in good Time, the Accumulator of their Fortunes.

WILSON'S CATHOLICITY.

Catholicity—Spiritual and Intellectual. A Series of Discourses. By Thomas Wilson, M.A., late Minister of St. Peter's Manscroft, Norwich. John Chapman.

We have already briefly noticed these eloquent and significant discourses, which faithfully reflect the spiritual struggles of a conscientious and devout mind after a more Catholic creed than is to be found within the pale of the Church. We hope and believe that the manly protest which is made in these pages against the absolute ignorance of Natural Religion in favour of merely Historical Faith, which distinguishes the established theology, will induce many others of the clergy to look with fresh eyes on the anomalous position in which they are placed. We fearlessly assert that, not only is the inculcation of Nicene and Tridentine theology—of Puseyism and Popery—impossible in the present age, but that the time is not far distant when all such authoritative teaching in matters of faith will be rejected by the enlightened consciences of the people. The utter degradation of what we call Protestantism at the present moment, its open violation of all the principles upon which it is professedly founded, its false and untenable position, its sophistical balancings between the rival claims of *reason* and *authority*, have nearly destroyed its spiritual character. The conduct of Protestant Dissenters at the present crisis is, moreover, marked by a total oblivion of all the rational principles of dissent, and the descendants of the Puritans and of Milton, whose noble dream was a theocracy, are found fighting in the ranks of episcopacy for the spiritual supremacy of the Crown!

Many and various and profoundly significant are the events daily passing around us, casting their deep shadows before them on the fated establishment. The whole idea of a priesthood is abandoned by the evangelical clergy in general, and the Dean of Bristol, in a speech reported in the *Times*, amidst the rapturous cheers of his audience, brands the assumption as "the substitution of the agency of man for the workings of the free spirit of God."

Mr. Wilson has, in these discourses, fearlessly appended the logical conclusions to these dangerous premises. He has ably exposed the immo-

ralities, superstitions, and absurdities that flow from our systematic theology derived from obscure and conflicting traditions, based on the doubtful "words of a book," and expounded by a wrangling priesthood. He has shown us that the soul of man cannot be satisfied with a creed that insults his intellect and degrades his nature without satisfying his religious instincts; and, without undervaluing the Jewish or Christian records, as monuments of the early piety of the world, he has asserted the spiritual privileges of all time and the ever-present Deity in the human soul:—

"We," he reminds us, "we, the present generation, though wayward triflers, still playing fantastic tricks before high Heaven, are in possession of all the gatherings of the past—we are as yet the oldest, the strongest, the best instructed of our kind. We vindicate our last-born elderhood against every claimant: by now aspiring, as never hitherto, to put away from our worship of the eternal and changeless Godhead the childish thoughts and childish speech of earlier days."

And again he says:—

"None of us need doubt the law of generic progression who looks back upon the communities of the earth, gradually emerging from the sloughs of cannibalism, fetishism, heathenism, polygamy, slavery, sorcery, and such like. Our laws are laws of movement; the *genus homo* goes on and must go on improving, till its Divine consummation justify the wisdom and goodness of the Power that made it what it is to be, 'Perfect, even as He is perfect.'

Mr. Wilson clearly demonstrates the paramount importance given to the *moral law* in the teaching of Christ, and his uniform depreciation of *Rabbinism* in all its forms; and applies this great central truth of Christianity to the modern dogmatism of the Churches and the overweening pretensions of priesthood. He exposes, also, the actual insincerity of those Christians who glory, as they professedly do, in their own degradation, and, renouncing all other merit, make a merit of their infirmities:—

"The same men," he says, "that are willing in public worship to heap upon themselves certain conventional terms of scriptural opprobrium, would be deeply aggrieved by a translation of this language into a colloquial idiom, or by any lack of respect in a neighbour's estimate of their actions and principles. They are willing and even anxious to be distinguished amongst their fellows by appellations of the highest esteem and respect. If they are one hour wretched, miserable, and unwhole-some sinners—the next they are 'reverend,' 'very reverend,' and 'right reverend' pastors—'honourable,' 'right honourable,' and 'most honourable' nobles."

It is, indeed, quite evident that the popular religion has become essentially ceremonial, and that the creed of the Churches is not the creed of our daily life. The rounded periods of our pulpits, and the tawdry eloquence of the platform, abound in expressions of spiritual heroism and social equality absolutely unknown in our common intercourse with each other. Our "prince-bishops" and clergy are almost uniformly found in the ranks of those who oppose the enthrallment of the people on the principles of even *Christian* equality. We are perfectly sure that, were the "Sermon on the Mount" now preached for the first time in St. James's-square, by a houseless and poverty-stricken man (whatever halo of divine love and inspired wisdom might hover round him), he would be immediately consigned by the Bishop of London to the custody of the police! Imagine the terrible significance of such sentences as these to episcopal ears. "Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint, anise, and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith." "Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whitened sepulchres," &c. &c. Imagine our "prince-bishop" hearing from the ragged orator such sentences as these: "He that is greater 't amongst you shall be your servant." "Be not ye called *Rabbi*, for one is your Master, even Christ; and ye are all *brethren*." These things are listened to in our Churches with pious reverence and devout attention; but spoken in our streets, they would be regarded as the ravings of fanaticism, or the declamation of an incendiary. And yet the protest of Christ against the corruptions of his national Church was not a whit more just than the modern indignation of Milton or Carlyle.

In a subsequent part of his discourse, Mr. Wilson exposes with eloquent earnestness the detestable doctrine of the eternity of punishment, showing at once its unscriptural foundation and its utter uselessness. A "reign of terror," is assuredly, as little suited to the spiritual nature of man, as to his political and social development. The "faith that worketh by love" is chilled by fear, and the religious serf is as much degraded and demoralized as the political vassal. We have only space for this

brief notice of these very remarkable discourses, which we strongly recommend to our readers. Mr. Wilson deserves the cordial thanks of all sincere and religious men for thus standing forward to protest against the corruptions of our systematic theology, and we hope again to meet him in the front rank of the spiritual Reformers of the nineteenth century. We have reason to believe, that he left behind him at Norwich the affectionate regret of his congregation, to whom his various accomplishments and pulpit eloquence had greatly endeared him. Had the warm recommendation of his bishop, who took great interest both in his ministerial work and secular lectures, been sufficient to overcome some scruples of conscience, for which we honour him, he would, probably, at this moment, have been preacher at the Foundling. It is by recruits such as these, who are almost weekly coming to us from the ranks of the establishment, that we hope to officer the army of the "New Reformation,"—men at once distinguished by their talents and approved by their sincerity.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

Die Romantische Schule in ihrem inneren Zusammenhang mit Goethe und Schiller (The Romantic School in its relation to Goethe and Schiller). Von H. Helmer. Franz Thümm

Every one who has dabbled at all in German literature has heard of its "Romantic school" with a band of critics and poets in its rear; and, although after great beating of drums and clashing of cymbals, that valorous young regiment has disappeared into obscurity once more, and the men whose ears were startled by the sound made in the streets (causing them to rush to the window to see what was going on) are now for the most part satisfied that much of this noise is owing to the emptiness of the drawn beaten, yet, as a matter of literary history, the romantic school will long remain fertile in interest.

It arose out of the anarchical condition of German culture. The gulf between Poetry and Life was, as Herder said, too distinctly apparent. While the provincialism of Kotzebue and the lachrymose activity of Iffland were equally incompetent to satisfy the nation. A standard of Poetry was sought; and Germany being the land of critics and philosophers, it was of course for them to discover the standard. Goetz von Berlichingen—and the study of Shakspere (then becoming general), gave the cue. To reconcile Idealism with Realism nothing was wanted but a complete reintegration of Religion in Art, and, as a corollary, a full development of the Spirit of the Middle Ages—so that Romantic Art was, *par excellence*, Christian Art. Wackenroder, Novalis, Tieck, the Schlegels, Brentano, and Arnim are the great chiefs of this school; and in spite of much detestable affectation and hollow rhetoric—in spite of considerable misdirection given to youthful earnest minds—one cannot survey German literature without acknowledging the benefits conferred by this school.

In what was available and healthy in this movement Goethe and Schiller had a large share; they acted upon it—it reacted upon them. Herr Helmer's book undertakes to exhibit the relation in which these Titans stood to the mortals of the Romantic School. It is purely poetical, and may be accepted as a history of the Romantic theory in Literature.

In Germany, as in France, Romanticism has produced some good collateral results while failing in its main object. It has directed attention to the Middle Ages; thrown off the yoke of pedantic prejudice and narrow rules; and has given European Art a certain solidarity which was before unsuspected.

A Manual of the Geography and History of Europe, Past and Present. By Francis H. Ungewitter, LL.D. Thomas Delt. Dr. Ungewitter is a German who has published several geographical works in his native country, and now presents the public with one comprehensive in its plan and careful in execution. It begins with a general survey of Europe, its mountain ranges, inland seas, bays, straits, &c., its lakes, its rivers, and its independent states. Then follow Portugal, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, Russia in Europe, Ionian Islands, Greece, and European Turkey. History and geography go hand in hand, while a very copious index facilitates the use of this valuable book of reference.

Elementary Anatomy and Physiology, for Schools and Private Instruction. With Lessons on Diet, Intoxicating Drinks, Tobacco, and Disease. By William Lovett. Illustrated with ten coloured plates. Dutton and Co.

Mr. Lovett is a teacher, and has drawn up these lessons for his own private convenience; finding them to be successful he has given them publicity. They are clear, brief, and untechnical—compiled from the best authorities, but arranged in a new and intelligible form. The plates are very useful illustrations. It is a book every one concerned in tuition should possess; the importance of some elementary knowledge of the subject being indisputable.

An Introductory Lecture on Happiness in its relations to Work and Knowledge. By John Forbes, M.D. Smith and Elder.

Dr. Forbes delivered this excellent lecture before the Chichester Literary Society and Mechanic's Institute, and is now published at the request of the members, for the benefit of a wider public.

Peter Little and the Lucky Sixpence; the Frog's Lecture; and other Stories. A verse book for my children and their playmates. Ridgway.

Pretty little stories in verse, having an easily appreciated moral. It is designed for young children, and some of that public pronounce it amusing.

Catholicism, the Religion of Fear, contrasted with Rationalism, the Theory of Reason. With Eight Plates. By George Jacob Holyoake. Watson.

In the various contests with which the public have lately been occupied on the Catholic question, we have seen no contrast between it and what many regard as its legitimate opponent, Rationalism. In this little work the contrast is made. The strength of the Catholic lies in his detecting and exposing the extremes of Rationalism, which are usually evaded or overlooked by the advocates of what are called Liberal principles. But here we have a writer who distinguishes and admits the extravagances, the caricatures to which the right of private judgment is liable, and who points out its principle of self-correction, and submits it as the perfectly satisfactory substitute of the effete rule of authority. This book has eight plates, from a very remarkable Catholic work, illustrating the terrors of that religion, in a manner which no verbal description could. The tone of this exposition is reverent both to Catholic and Christian feeling, and yet independent in its maintenance of reason and humanity.

The English Republic. Edited by W. J. Linton.

London: Watson.

This is a new monthly, almost entirely from the pen of the Editor. It has more than the ability of earnestness, and bearing Mr. Linton's name, we need not say it is issued with great taste. We do not agree with the Editor that any will "grow pale with rage or fear" at the announcement of Republican proposals. Put forth with so much sincerity, and enforced with so much reason, we should think all would pause to consider, although they might not accept without scruple, the views that this Magazine sets forth. What Dumont was to Bentham, Mr. Linton aspires to be to Mazzini; and all who wish to comprehend the idea of Republicanism held by the great political teacher last named, will find this Magazine of interest. We hope Mr. Linton's appeal to Young Men will find a response from them. Despite some peculiarities of language and some passionate invective, Mr. Linton's pages contain sentiments of duty, aspiration, and heroism very rare in the modern literature of English Republicanism.

Lectures by Ernest Jones, Canterbury versus Rome. Dipple. These lectures are in course of publication in weekly numbers. The patience and research which they display contrast very advantageously with the political orations which Mr. Jones is accused of delivering. The opening is both eloquent and able, and we shall further notice them when their publication is completed.

Social Statics; or, the Conditions Essential to Human Happiness Specified, and the First of them Developed. By Herbert Spencer. John Chapman.

Historic Certainties respecting the Early History of America, developed in a Critical Examination of the Book of the Chronicles of the Land of Ecnor. By the Reverend Aristarchus Newlight.

The First Angel. A Novel in 2 vols. J. W. Parker. Saunders and Otley

NOTES AND EXTRACTS.

STYLE.—Altogether the style of a writer is a faithful representative of his mind; therefore, if any man wishes to write a clear style, let him be first clear in his thoughts; and if any would write in a noble style, let him first possess a noble soul.—*Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann.*

LOVE.—The things that we love in a young lady are something very different from the understanding. We love her beauty, youthfulness, playfulness, trustiness, her character, her faults, her caprices, and God knows what "je ne sais quoi" besides; but we do not love her understanding. We respect her understanding when it is brilliant, and by it the worth of a girl can be infinitely enhanced in our eyes. Understanding may also serve to fix our affections when we already love; but the understanding is not that which is capable of firing our hearts, and awakening a passion.—*Goethe's Conversations with Eckermann.*

The Zoist for January is again rich in fact, in philosophy, and refutation of ignorance. It appears, with respect to Miss Martineau's remarkable experiment on a cow, critics hold that the doctor who had been attending in vain upon it, had really effected the cure. Criticisms on mesmeric cases are very curious. If you call in a doctor the cure is ascribed to him. If you do not call in a doctor, it is said that nothing was the matter. The world has often desired to know who is the infallible doctor who is sure to cure you. We have found it out. It is the last doctor who gives you up before you call in the mesmerizer. He it is who always cures you. You don't know it—you are dying in ignorance of it. But he is the man. When the mesmerizer has restored you to health, the critics find out that the doc or did it.—*Reasoner.*

STUDY OF THE PAST.—We are in bondage to terms and conceptions which, having had their root in conditions of thought no longer existing, have creased to possess any vitality, and are for us as spurs which have lost their virtue. The endeavour to spread enlightened ideas is perpetually counteracted by these *idola theatri*, which have allied themselves, on the one hand with men's better sentiments, and on the other with institutions in whose defence are arrayed the passions and the interests of dominant classes. Now, though the teaching of positive truth is the grand means of expelling error, the process will be very much quickened if the negative argument serve as its pioneer; if, by a survey of the past, it can be shown how each age and each race has had a faith and a symbolism suited to its need and its stage of development, and that for succeeding ages to dream of retaining the spirit along with the forms of the past, is as futile as the embalming of the dead body in the hope that it may one day be resumed by the living soul.—*Westminster and Foreign Quarterly Review.*

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—GUTHRIE.

AN EPISODE IN A HISTORY.

PART I.—THE LESSON.

In March 1832, I, Francis Harwell, being then twenty years of age, and a student at the University of Glasgow, formed a magnanimous resolution to regenerate the world.

Out of the three million three hundred thousand and thirty-three plans for accomplishing the world's regeneration, I chose that of publishing a small periodical of which I was to be sole proprietor and editor, and which was to be sold to all and sundry for the sum of twopence a number.

My means for carrying out this great undertaking were rather limited. Of the main requisite—money—I had little enough; and as, in order the more to startle men, I had communicated my scheme only to one or two brother students who were as poor or poorer than myself, I was cheerfully prepared to take all the risk as I expected all the glory. But indeed I did not consider there was any risk in the matter. I had the most perfect conviction that the appearance of my periodical would work an immediate revolution in society, and that there would be such a demand for copies that the printer would find a difficulty in supplying them. In this, I suppose I was guilty of no more crime or folly than enthusiasm, a crime and a folly which I have often committed since and been punished accordingly.

As I was about to astonish, not only Glasgow, but Scotland, I thought I could not select a better title for my periodical than that of the *Magician*. The week in which the first number appeared was the busiest of my life. My brain and my body were in a complete fever of action. Over me hovered inspiringly the radiant form of the renown which was soon to be mine. I wrote, I corrected proofs, I was in and out of the printing-office twenty times a day. The *Magician* with its mysterious Latin motto was to come before the Glasgow public on the Saturday. All Friday night, from sunset to dawn, I remained beside the printers. When the first sheet was taken from the press, and I saw in living type my own sublime imaginings, my revelations in prose and my prophecies in poetry, my rapture was indescribable. I felt myself for the moment a conqueror and a king. How divine it was for me to think that two thousand copies of the *Magician* with its Latin motto were to be that morning in the hands of the Glasgow citizens.

Most unfortunately the Glasgow citizens are fond of salt herrings to their breakfast, and are not much given to idealisms. My *Magician* therefore produced no magical effect on them. Of the two thousand printed only three hundred were sold, and very likely the three hundred purchasers thought that they had ill bestowed their twopences.

Nothing disengaged by the fate of the first number, I determined to publish a second. With pertinacious unteachableness I ordered as many copies to be printed of the second number as of the first. But *Magician* number two, sold still worse than *Magician* number one, though I strove to make it still more brilliant and attractive. This want of success scarcely depressed me, for I was firmly convinced that the merits of the *Magician* must force themselves soon on the public attention, even if they remained unknown for a week or two. I have no doubt that I should have continued for many months to publish a periodical which nobody bought, if the printer had not told me that before he did any more work for me, he must be paid for that which he had already done. This was perplexing. I thought him a sordid wretch, but I disdained to reason with him. I saw clearly enough, however, that my grand scheme must be abandoned and its realization postponed to some more fortunate time. I had now only to consider the means of paying the printer and coming honestly out of a thing on which I had entered rashly. I had none to whom I could apply but my father, and as he had already complained of my frequent demands for money during the session, I shrank with horror from asking £20 more, the sum necessary to pay the printer's bill. But as I knew that there was no other door of escape open to me from what I regarded as infamy, I at length sat down and wrote a long and penitent letter, detailing my embarrassments and their causes, and promising amendment if relieved

by my father's kindness from my difficulty. My father was not a harsh man, was besides being a noble-hearted, rather an indulgent man, but he was far from being rich, and whatever money he possessed, he had gathered together by hard and incessant toil. Besides he could not help looking on me as an egregious and incorrigible fool; I had no reason, therefore, to be astonished or angry, when he replied with becoming brevity that I must get out of the entanglement into which my indiscretions had led me, in the best way I could. This drove me to despair. I was too proud, too sensitive, had too keen a sense of honour to think of exposing myself to the importunities of a dunning printer. My wisest plan would have been to go like a prodigal to my father's house, and throw myself on his mercy. But I dismissed such a notion after entertaining it for a moment. I then thought, that as I seemed very unfit for this world I had better make my exit into another. But I was young, clung to life, felt within me a fund of energies which I had not the courage to bury by one decisive stroke in the grave, dreaded the curse that rests on the suicide's name, and recollecting, as I have done in other temptations as terrible, that I had a mother. At length, after much and painful pondering, I resolved to go to Edinburgh and there turn either player or soldier, I did not quite decide which.

I have never been dilatory, so I at once proceeded to carry my resolution into effect. I had only a few shillings remaining—not enough to pay for a place in the coach—I, therefore, was content to travel in a humbler fashion. I took a steerage passage in one of the canal boats, which at that time conveyed, and perhaps do still convey, the poorer classes of travellers between the two great cities. The passage was long, tedious, and dismal. The rain fell in a deluge, without stopping for an instant. My companions, however, seemed merry enough; they smoked and they joked, they drank and they sang. Some of them made good-natured attempts to render me merry, too. But this was in vain; the more their joy abounded, the more tragic did I feel my sorrow to be. After nine or ten hours' confinement to the wretched den, where all kinds of smoke and all kinds of drunken smells half stifled me, I was glad enough to escape from it and its inmates. I had not to hesitate a moment on getting out; for I had made up my mind that there was something contemptible in the profession of a player. It was a relief to me that, though I was about to do what I very much disliked, I had at least determined to do something. I asked my way to the Cavalry barracks, and trudged on through the mud and rain. I met a beggar, who told me that he had recently lost all his family by the cholera. My pocket was light enough; I had nothing but a shilling—I gave him that. As I entered the gate of the barracks, I knew that I was treading a region of degradation and bestiality, foreign to the dreams and aspirations I had from my childhood indulged. But there was a deed to be done, and with a manly air I did it—though, perhaps, the gloom of a rainy twilight made me in greater haste than I should otherwise have been. I found then, that on the 3rd of April, 1832, I had enlisted into a regiment of Light Dragoons. A recruit is always an object of kindness and attention to the other soldiers. He is for a time a novelty; they are drawn toward him by natural companionship—they wish him to think well of his new trade. Besides, on the whole, soldiers, especially in cavalry regiments, are much better fellows than they are usually represented. That evening then, was, in spite of the many anxieties that oppressed me, rather a pleasant one. There was a charm merely in the newness of the circumstance; there was something in knowing that I was now no longer lonely; and it was not to be despised by one so hungry, wet, and tired, that there was a good supper to eat and a good bed to lie down in. Next day took place the beginning of my regular transformation into a soldier. I was at that time somewhat of a dandy, and had on a handsome suit of clothes. Jack Saunders, a young, good-looking, frank-seeming Englishman, told me that he could sell them and my hat to advantage. I took a prodigious liking to Jack for his obliging offer. As soon, therefore, as I had been provided with my military outfit, I handed over my civilian clothes and hat to Jack to dispose of as he thought proper. Some hours after, Jack informed me that he had sold them for ten shillings, which however, he always forgot to pay me. After a week or two, Jack grew exceedingly cool to me, though doubtless his friendship would

have revived, if he had discovered that I had again become fat enough to be worth the plucking. When lounging about the barracks the day after my enlistment, a puppy of an officer, two or three years younger than myself, drawlingly asked me if I had been a weaver before becoming a soldier? This question I was silly enough to be angry at, and bore the creature a grudge ever after. The same day, a young woman, the wife of one of the soldiers, seeing me at a loss for something to do, asked me to fetch a bucket of water. This was rather a descent from the dignity of the *Magician*; but I cheerfully enough complied, always glad to be obliging. I was sworn in before an Edinburgh magistrate, who bored me with some twaddle about serving faithfully my king and country. I had seen George the Fourth in Edinburgh ten years before, and had conceived somewhat of a disgust at kings. The first fortnight of my military life had a kind of charm about it which I could not resist, notwithstanding painful recollections and still more painful forebodings. I was delighted to renew my acquaintance with glorious old Edinburgh, though I could not help remembering that it was as a happy, innocent boy, and holding my kind father's hand, that I had formerly trod its streets. I was no less delighted to acquire a knowledge of manners so new and strange as those with which I was nightly and daily brought into contact. Besides, as the regiment was under orders to march, I had till we left Edinburgh, no heavier duty than making my own bed and cleaning my own boots, in both of which operations I never arrived at any very remarkable dexterity. About the middle of April the regiment set out on its march. I and the other recruits were appointed to guard the baggage, armed with no other weapons than unloaded carbines, and provided with no other horses than our legs. Just as we were quitting Edinburgh, a gentleman, whom I had formerly known at Glasgow, passed me, but did not seem to recognize me. Our journey was a merry one; nobody attacked the baggage, or put to the proof our unloaded carbines. Two troops, one of them, that to which I belonged, were ordered to Hamilton, the rest of the regiment going to Glasgow. When we arrived at Hamilton my duties began in right earnest. I had to rise at half past five, and help in my turn to clean out the stable. I had to devote two hours every day, one in the morning, the other in the evening, to my horse, scrubbing him, feeding him, and keeping his stall in order. I had to preserve his accoutrements and my own arms and clothes in spotless and perpetual brightness. I had to go to drill twice a-day, and to the riding school once or twice. There were sundry other occupations, some of which came regularly and some occasionally. Altogether, from the time I rose till the time I went to bed, I had scarcely a moment that I could call my own. I should have rejoiced in all this hard work if I had been able to stand it. But I had been very tenderly brought up, and both from constitution, and from never having had any severer labour than handling an oar now and then, I was as ill-fitted as a man could be for any new employment. I began to grow weak from the combined effects of cough, of rheumatism, and of over-fatigue. Yet I was not disposed to yield childishly. One day, however, in the riding-school, I got such a severe fall from my horse that I was obliged to be carried to the hospital. I continued in the hospital a week or two. My abode there did not prove so miserable as I had expected. We had some capital story-tellers, especially an Irishman, who was the greatest liar and the most amusing person I have ever met. The old soldier also, who had the care of the hospital, sometimes lent us books and newspapers. We likewise held conversations occasionally with some of the Hamilton folks, who lived in houses which overlooked the hospital grounds; and tender-hearted women among them threw books to us now and then over the barrack walls. Still there was enough, in addition to our own bodily sufferings, to make us gloomy, in seeing wounds dressed, and in lying a few feet, sometimes only a few inches, from the dying and the dead. During the first night that I spent in the hospital a man died in the same ward in which I was. These and other annoyances I might have thought little about, if I had been well and moving actively about, but in my present state I recalled the magnificent fantasies in which I had revelled from my boyhood, and my present life seemed a mockery and an infamy in tragic contrast with them all. As soon, therefore, as I recovered, I asked and obtained leave of absence for two days, my purpose being to go to my father's house and persuade my parents to purchase my discharge. I ought to say that all this time, I had never written to them, as I dreaded to tell them the truth.

The Arts.

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD.

That is the suggestive title of the new piece at the Olympic, and although the piece does not very happily illustrate the moral of its name, it runs gaily through the two acts, applauded by the laughter and the tears of an audience more enthusiastic than refined. It is, indeed, very near being a perfectly charming piece. I have little doubt its French original (*Le Journal d'une Fille*, or some such title) has just the grace and verisimilitude we miss in this version; for one great distinction between French vaudevilles and most of their English adapters is, that the one know what society is, and endeavour to depict it; whereas the other, apparently ignorant of all the usages of society, depict *not* what is daily enacted in our drawing-rooms and streets, but what the stage has traditionally handed down to us as the customs of certain classes: living in greenrooms and green-room society these men get imbued with a factitious colouring which affects everything they touch. They are always scene-painting; they rouge the cheek of truth—and that with no delicate hand—yet believe they have given it the ruddy glow of health.

The present piece is, as I said, very near being charming. It is well worth going to see; better worth seeing than many a piece of the kind; and if I make some reservation in my praise, it is because I really felt a regret that so pretty a piece should be hurt by such *stagey* treatment. The acting was excellent. Leigh Murray, in the rough, manly *Stephen*, was truthful, genial, and pathetic. Mrs. Sterling threw some charming natural touches into her part, though once or twice forgetting herself, and mounting on the stilts of the tragedy Queen. Compton was immensely ludicrous in a preposterous character—and the very force of his acting only made the monstrosity of the part more apparent. Farren had little to do; and that little not offering any scope for acting. His dress, by the way, was out of all keeping with the scene!

But I have not told you the story of the piece. Old Jasper Plum, a rich cotton spinner, has two sons, the eldest of whom, *Stephen*, takes a pride in the mill, and is nothing more than a rough, honest overseer to his own workmen, with whom he is on the best of terms. His brother *Frederick* has a more aristocratic turn—hopes for a diplomatic career, and marries *Lady Valeria Westendleigh*. *Fred* is the father's pride; *Stephen* is reproached for not having the same aristocratic aspirations. But *Stephen* will stick to cotton while *cotton sticks* to him, and actually intimates his resolution of marrying *Martha Gibbs*, a factory girl! To get his father's consent is not easy, but at last it is obtained on condition that *Martha* be for three months exposed to the temptations of fashionable life, and if she pass safely through the ordeal, *Stephen* is to call her wife. It appears that *Lady Valeria* and *Martha* were old playmates—*Lady Valeria*'s mother having saved the life of *Martha*'s mother. It also appears that *Lady Valeria* is not ardently attached to the man she is about to marry—her heart has been given elsewhere, but she marries *Frederick* because he is a good match. The "elsewhere" becomes visible in the presence of *Sir Arthur Lassels*, a friend of *Frederick*; *Martha* perceives it, and resolves to watch over her friend.

This first act is excellent, not very elegantly written, but full of nice feeling and good situation. The extravagance of *Compton*'s part is a blot upon it, descending below farce into ignoble buffoonery, but played by him so as to draw shouts from the multitude. The second act is improbable in structure, and intensely *stagey* in details; even where the substance is tolerable the manner is invariably at fault. *Martha Gibbs* has passed through the ordeal successfully; only one week more remains; but she has seen *Sir Arthur Lassels* resolutely pursuing *Lady Valeria* with his attentions, and has drawn upon herself the suspicion of being in love with him, by the obstinacy with which she follows him about whenever he is with *Lady Valeria*. *Sir Arthur* being a coxcomb (such a coxcomb! ye gods! such a duper!) thinks she is jealous of *Lady Valeria*, and telling her that the *Lady* has promised him a rendezvous, consents to renounce that if she, *Martha*, will grant him one. To save her friend she consents—*places* *Valeria* in a hiding place, and receives *Sir Arthur*. *Valeria* thus learns his villainy, and forthwith resolves to bestow all her affection upon her husband—which is proper, virtuous, and conjugal of her! But *Martha* thus risks her own happiness, for the interview is made known, and she is ordered to leave the house, unworthy to be *Stephen's* wife. After a few handkerchiefs are moistened here, all looks bright again by *Valeria*'s confession of the truth; and so the "glittering" virtue of the aristocracy is exposed in contrast with the sterling "gold" of the factory girl.

It was immensely successful, if the purport of the drama be *not* to hold the mirror up to life, and reflect every form and pressure of the age, but rather to hold the mirror up to the stage, and reflect the very form and pressure given to it there, then I see no reason why every one should not pronounce *All that Glitters is not Gold* a chef d'œuvre.

THE OLD LOVE AND THE NEW.

I have just come from Old Drury, where they have given a very pleasant vivacious comedy in five acts, called *Old Love and the New*, and am now to jot down my impressions, reserving to myself the power of modifying them next week, if reflection and a second visit show cause. In substance it is slight enough, and by no means new. Sir Algernon Courteau, a battered old beau, is paying desperate court to Camilla Haythorn, a lively young flirt, who is making herself as fascinating to him as possible, for the very cogent reason that she is in love with his nephew and heir, Captain Sidney Courteau. The misfortune is she makes herself *too* fascinating. But you can't wonder at that: Mrs. Nisbett is the Camilla! Sir Algernon, blinded by his desires, lured by her coquetry, makes her an offer of his hand and acres. She rejects him—exasperates him—and now trembles for her own fate. To keep the truth from Sir Algernon that he has a rival in his nephew, Major Stock opportunely arrives, and is made a cat's paw. The embroilie is prolonged by a series of contrivances which are not always very clearly set forth; but, as some amusing scenes are the result, the audience laugh and are not critical. Finally, it turns out that Sir Algernon, in the flush of youth, loved a girl whom his parents would not suffer him to marry—that he has suffered great misery from it—and the recollection of his *old* love makes him lenient in his judgment of the *new*, and, forgiving Camilla, he consents to her marriage with his nephew. While, for himself, he falls back upon his old love, who turns up in the person of Miss Trimmer, an old maid, the pivot of the comedy, and its happiest character.

Now, I must say that, with the best will in the world, I cannot see the substance of a five-act comedy in that; and only some admirable invention in the details, or strength and variety in the characters, could mask its weakness. Unhappily, invention is not the author's forte; nor has he more than a sketchy power in characterization. The construction of the piece is deficient in clearness, and the characters want "keeping." Thus Miss Trimmer starts as a real bit of character: an old maid always doing good and speaking unpleasant truths, giving her advice most liberally, but giving her money with equal generosity. We expected great things of her; but instead of allowing the characters to shape the comedy, the author suffers the incidents to shape the characters, and the originality of Miss Trimmer's part disappears into commonplace sentiment. Precisely the same occurs with Sir Algernon. We have him at the outset an old dandy—a lady-killer—and we have him at last a sorrowful old gentleman who has been thirty years seeking his only love—and whom, by the way, he does *not* recognize when he meets her, no, not after several interviews: which in a love of thirty years seems a little incredible? Indeed, this love part between the two old people is the marshy-ground of the piece—all is swamped there.

The acting was capital. Anderson, as Captain Sidney, played with great spirit and naturalness; his bit of lover's quarrel with Mrs. Nisbett was charming on both sides. Mrs. Nisbett was gay and laughing in a part written for her. (My dear Mrs. Nisbett drop your head a little, push aside those curls, while I whisper just one word in your ear; only one! Nay, turn aside those eyes, or I shan't have the courage!) There, that will do; now mark: young ladies do *not* array themselves in low dresses and short sleeves, with pink bows in their hair in the middle of the day—above all things, they shun rambling about a park in that cool costume! Mrs. Ternan played Miss Trimmer with ladylike quietness and great naturalness—it could not have been better. Mr. Barrett, as old Haythorn, was bluff and hearty, though conventional; and Emery, Artaud, and Mrs. Walter Lacy did the most for their small parts. Mr. Cooper was sadly misplaced in a part suited for Farren! The piece is mounted with just elegance and taste, and the success was complete.

S. T. MARTIN'S HALL.

The third monthly concert of ancient and modern music, under the direction of Mr. Hullah, took place on Wednesday evening. The ancient music consisted of No. 4 of Handel's *Hautboy Concertos* and the "Frost Scene" from Purcell's *King Arthur*. Simply as studies and exponents of the instrumental music of the time, Mr. Hullah does well in bringing forward these dry and laboured specimens, which may even have charms for some antique minds; but, beyond being curiosities in their way, we know of little to recommend them, amid those rich symphonies which evidence the advanced state of the art. The *hautboy* parts were, however, beautifully treated

by Messrs. Nicholson and Horton. Purcell's "Frost Scene" is also an exponent of by-gone times, but the dramatic inspiration appearing throughout Purcell's writings makes them ever welcome. Mr. Henry Phillips delivered the bass solos magnificently. The efforts of Miss Kearns, who is a rising vocalist, were slightly marred by a carelessness of intonation. Our English female singers are sadly apt either to neglect precise intonation or to be wholly guiltless of declamatory force. Of the two, we would prefer the former, upon the principle that "a live dog is better than a dead lion"; but there is no reason why declamatory force and precision of tone should not be found united.

The modern music of the evening was Mendelssohn's *First Walpurgis Night* and four compositions by Charles Gounod, of Paris. The *Walpurgis* Night terminated the concert, and was, therefore, badly placed in the programme. It was admirably given: the solos being entrusted to Miss Kent, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Phillips.

The whole effort and interest of the evening had, however, been concentrated on the four compositions of Charles Gounod. We had heard much of his celebrity as a composer. We are much pleased to be introduced to the works of young writers of our day, a thing far too infrequent for the interests of both art and artists. But with every disposition in favour of Mr. Gounod, we are bound to say that what we have yet heard will not ensure him a status above the level of mediocrity. He is essentially of the French school, but has seemingly endeavoured to redeem himself from its triviality of phrase by laboured passages which mean nothing and lead to nothing. We have, therefore, a continual promise of melody which as continually leads to disappointment: a great quantity of noise, but no breadth of harmony: an immense attempt, but no inspiration. The first chorus, "Libera me, Domine," was from a *Requiem*. It is a series of progressive chords; voices and instruments proceeding with a dull uniformity. An attempt is made to break from this by imitative instrumentation on the words "Quando celi movendi sunt et terra," but it almost immediately relapses into the uniform progression. There is, however, a religious tone pervading this isolated extract from the *Requiem*, which led us to desire some further acquaintance with the work. A motet, "Thou wilt content them, O Lord," for two choirs, without accompaniment, followed. There is a nice phrase on the opening words, but the melody is almost instantly resigned, and the remainder of the motet is cramped and dry. A "Sanctus," "Hosanna," and "Benedictus," followed, the first meeting with an encore. The "Sanctus" is given to the tenor solo, and each phrase is repeated by the chorus. On the words "gloria tua" there is a crescendo leading to a most theatrical crash on the "Hosanna in excelsis." Here it is not only "great organ full to trumpet," but "orchestra full to cymbals," every instrument being employed but the gong and the triangle. We never remember to have heard so much noise in a concert-room. The idea—for there is, nevertheless, a manifest conception about this—has been to make it a very dramatic scene. The opening of the "Sanctus" is accompanied by a military style of instrumentation and the measured beat of the distant drum. This draws nearer and nearer, until we have the tremendous crash of the "Hosanna," when the army of Heaven may be considered to be passing by. The "Benedictus" is given to the soprano, accompanied on the organ only, and repeated by the chorus, who again take up the "Hosanna" in fugue.

We have here much of the disjointed phraseology of *Le Prophète*; but even amid the glitter of the Roman Catholic ceremonial, this "Sanctus" would appear as if it came fresh from the opera—no great recommendation in ecclesiastical music. The specimens concluded with a dramatic scene from a composition called "Peter the Hermit," consisting of a bass solo, semi-chorus, and chorus. The choruses were not marked by any vein of originality; but the bass solo, well rendered by Mr. Phillips, gave the first solo of M. Gounod's melodic genius. In these we had energy and a melody which, declaimed by Henry Phillips, rejoiced the ear, but it was calculated also to confirm our impression that M. Gounod follows in that school which sacrifices the genius and germ of music—melody—and seeks to produce effect upon the mind by cramped and learned writing. No composition can exist without melody. It is the true fountain of inspiration, and the composer who would that his works should live must drink of it freely. M. Gounod, we understand, is young. We would advise him to leave France again, sojourn in Italy, and return through Germany. After a careful study of the music of those countries, if he have any genius at all, he may yet write that which will gain him a great name.

The executancy of the works throughout the evening was excellent. The whole chorus yield a willing obedience to Mr. Hullah's baton, and we thus have a precision which enables him to give more real effect with his little corps than is produced by the Leviathan bodies of Exeter-hall.

European Democracy, AND ITS OFFICIAL ACTS.

This page is accorded to an authentic Exposition of the Opinions and Acts of the Democracy of Europe: as such we do not impose any restraint on the utterance of opinion, and, therefore, limit our own responsibility to the authenticity of the statement.

HISTORY OF THE POLISH DEMOCRACY.

[The following brief synthetical view of the elements, history, and organization of the Polish Democratic party is by a foreign pen. But we adopt its conclusions without reserve; and gladly give it place amongst our delineations of Democracy in Europe. This exposition will be completed next week.]

The Polish Emigration presents a singular and admirable spectacle. Those who compose it are not people hiding themselves before persecution or the sword of an implacable conqueror,—they are not individuals disappointed in their ambitious designs or hopes, seeking abroad for better social conditions,—but they are men forming a portion of a nation which long ago was in insurrection: they are members of the late national Government or of the Diet—public functionaries, military men of all ranks, from that of general to that of private soldier, who have no other thought than that of unceasingly striving to assist their unhappy country whilst sojourning in foreign lands. It was that thought which gave birth to the Polish Emigration, becoming at once a deliberative body, based upon peculiar forms adapted to the national wants, so that the Polish Emigration, constitutes, as it were, a nation amongst other nations; and the emigrants, although they have devoted themselves to different pursuits and trades to maintain themselves and their families, yet hold themselves ever ready to relinquish them at the first call upon them in the name of Poland.

That our readers may become acquainted with the Democratic party in Poland, it is necessary for them not to lose sight of the Emigration, in which that party is represented by the Polish Democratic Society, and of the Centralization, or Executive Committee, which conducts the operations of the society.

Yet it would be erroneous to date the existence of the Polish Democratic party only from 1831, or from the commencement of the Polish Emigration: it would be equally erroneous to imagine that ideas originating in Western Europe, and springing from the French Republicans, had given birth to Democracy in Poland. Poland's history, and the archives of the Polish Democratic Society, furnish the most convincing proofs to the contrary; and, in fact, if we study the history of Poland—if we examine her laws and institutions, we at once perceive that the development of her internal and social life has been completely different from that of England, France, or Germany. There were in the old Polish Republic only two classes—the nobility and the peasantry; as to the *bourgeois*, or middle class, their number was very insignificant; and, in spite of the trifling privileges granted to the inhabitants of larger towns, trade, as well as commerce, remained almost exclusively in the hands of immigrating Germans or Jews. Such a state of things, on the one hand, necessarily endowed the nobility with wealth and supremacy, whilst on the other nothing but misery and oppression beset the people. From unbounded wealth and supremacy to excess and corruption there is but one step; and the Polish nobility soon passed that narrow boundary. This occurred in the eighteenth century, precisely at the moment when affairs in Europe began to assume an entirely new aspect,—when populous towns had arisen phoenix-like from the ruins of feudal castles,—when the middle classes had grown up to intellectual and financial power, and the creation of standing armies had put the means of making conquests into the hands of ambitious monarchs.

The sole salvation of Poland in such a state of things, and under the watchful eye of grasping neighbours, lay in the rising *en masse* of her nobility; but luxury and licentiousness had rendered them impotent; they had lost all their chivalrous spirit, and were unable to make any efficient resistance: hence Poland's three partitions in 1772, 1792, and 1795.

Thus luxury, extravagance, and the entire absence of chivalrous disposition in the nobles, as a body, on the one hand, and the oppression and misery of the people at large on the other, mostly contributed to the downfall of Poland. Where were to be sought the elements of a new rising and a new life? Not in the middle class, which had no real existence. Not in the nobility, which the years 1772, 1792, and 1794 amply proved to be totally unequal to such emergencies; but in the people at large—the whole nation! Hence to all thinking men, to all who wished to reconquer the independence of their country, there appeared but one efficient means, *viz.*, that of raising the people to the conscious dignity of citizens, by the sincere adoption of the most advanced principles of social and political emancipation. It was from the moment when such a conviction began to spread, that the Democratic party took its rise.

We shall not here enumerate all that has been written on this subject, or discussed in the Polish Diets, though honourable mention might be made of the writings of Staszic, and of Kollontay, called the Polish Robespierre; for, after all the efforts of that period, the first ten years of the nineteenth century were merely individual, not concentrated into a general system or plan, uncalculated to ensure success. The generality of the nobles could not yet support radical reforms; the levelling of all classes was not yet the gospel of the privileged themselves; hence Kościuszko, scarcely able to lighten the slavery of *socage-service*, could not hope to emancipate labour; and even in 1830 and 1831 partial emancipation only was here and there granted.

It was only when, after the revolution of 1830, several thousands of Polish revolutionists were scattered beyond the boundaries of their country, when past blunders and errors presented themselves in all their nakedness, when people began to reflect and ponder upon the means of freeing the country from its thralldom, that, to the question “why up to the present time all the past insurrections had been fruitless?” the following answer suggested itself to the warmest hearts and to the most clear-sighted intellects of the country:—“Because, up to this moment, *Poland* has never attempted against her enemies a real national war, in which the whole nation has taken an active part,—because, as yet, nothing has been done that would show to those enemies that the cause of the insurrection is the nation's cause.” Now, the idea which this answer contains, advocated by some members of the Diet, and several able writers*, became, ere long, the property of all, and resulted in the formation (March 17, 1832) of the Polish Democratic Society.

This Democratic Society, having for its object the freeing of Poland from a foreign yoke, and the emancipation of the peasantry, and investing them with landed property, laid the foundation both for a political and for a social revolution; a revolution adapted to the condition of the country, in which the earth is the sole workshop, and agricultural products the only elements of the national wealth.

The peasantry of Poland were, under the old regime, *serfs*, *adscript giebel*; they rendered a certain amount of *compulsory labour* (*socage-service*) to the lords to whom they belonged, in return for which they had the right of cultivating portions of his demesne for their own purposes. The scheme of their emancipation, of which we have been speaking, consists in granting the full and unconditional proprietary of the land which they cultivated, without any indemnity to former landowners, and in freeing them from this enforced labour. The great majority—we may, in fact, say the generality of the Polish landowners—acquiesce in this temporary sacrifice on the part of their class.

The Polish Democratic Society, after some few years spent in increasing its number, and in internally organizing itself, issued, on the 4th of December, 1836, its manifesto, containing the political and social principles of the society; a document which was signed by 1135 exiles, amongst whom were many military men of high rank, and several members of the Diet of 1831.

The bases of this manifesto are:—“Through the Society for Poland, through Poland for Humanity.”—Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.—Sovereignty of the People.—Emancipation of the peasantry, and investing them with landed property, without any indemnification to the present proprietors.—Liberty of thought, word, writing, and printing.—Liberty of conscience.—Abolition of political and class prerogatives.—Equality of rights and duties, of benefits and burdens.—Public education, accessible to all.”

The democratic party was from this time really constituted, and since then the Democratic Society, having placed at its head the centralization, consisting of five persons, began to carry on an oral and written propaganda of their principles, both in their country and amongst their fellow-emigrants: oral, through the medium of agents—written, through that of pamphlets, books, periodicals of historical, political, or military character, which, altogether, formed a library of about sixty volumes. Of the periodicals, we shall mention the *Polish Democrat*, a political journal, and *Pszonka*, a satirical publication. There appeared besides, for a length of time, two reviews, the one *political*, under the title of *Memoir* (*Pamiętnik*); the other *historical*, entitled, *Review of Polish History*. Military productions deserving to be cited, there are *Instructions for Insurgents*, containing Tactics, Strategy, and Field- fortification, as well as a critical analysis, in a military point of view, of the Polish campaign of 1831. All these productions were written and published for the association.

The diffusion of democratic principles was not only opposed by the Polish aristocracy, with Prince Czartoryski at its head, but also by Liberals, who, though admitting the republican form and the democratic principles, thought it unwise to apply those principles at once, in all their development, as proclaimed by the Democratic Society.

In the contest which unavoidably ensued from this opposition, the society enjoyed an evident advantage over all other parties in being an organized body, animated by one thought, and guided by one will; and the result was that the antagonists of the society gradually lost their influence both at home and in exile, and that the transmission of funds to be disposed of at the discretion of Prince Czartoryski became less frequent. That chief of the antagonistic party, thwarted on every point, pressed by the consequence of his own policy, and aspiring to be consistent and logical, proclaimed himself, at length, pretender to the future Polish throne; and this brought ridicule on what yet remained of his influence, and virtually abandoned the field to the democratic party.

* We may quote, amongst others, of two newspapers, published in 1831, which were then the organs of the revolutionary party, *viz.*, the *Polish Gazette* and the *New Poland*.

Associative Progress.

ROBERT OWEN AND THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.

TO THE SOCIAL REFORMERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.
FRIENDS AND BRETHREN.—Great reforms are the results of great efforts. The year 1817 will ever be remarkable in the annals of Europe as the most important epoch in the revolution of mind, when a poor monk electrified the western world by proclaiming the ascendancy of reason, and settling for ever the right of every man to private judgment in matters of faith.

The year 1849 saw, for the first time in our own country, the triumph of popular will. An obscure farmer, by the aid of public opinion, in exploding that monster fallacy of politics, the “right divine” of kings.

The year 1776 is immortalized by one of the noblest victories in the records of nations, when the New World declared its independence of the Old, despising the trappings of regal pomp, and founding National Law upon National Will.

The year 1778 is distinguished for the birth of those European Revolutions which threaten the disruption of the old system of things, and demonstrate that “peace and order” will be a stranger in society until the principles of equity and fraternity, in their most enlarged and enlightened interpretation, are established amongst us.

The year 1851, we are assured, will be memorable in the progress and development of civilization. For the first time in the history of the world there is to be a meeting of the peoples of the leading nations of the globe, not with the view of butchering each other, and making the earth around them groan in agony and death, but for fraternal communion, each contributing their measure of ingenuity and skill to one common emporium, in which will be exhibited all that modern intellect can produce.

Such a brilliant opportunity should not be lost by the Social Reformers of this country to make further known to the world, through their brethren visiting the International Exhibition, the means of universal happiness and brotherhood. There is a tide in the affairs of nations as of men which, taken at its flood, leads to fortune. A people, as an individual, by seizing the proper moment may achieve more by one great effort than years of agitation and suffering. And what moment more opportune for promulgating these views so well calculated to make the world happy than the time when the world is there to listen to you? The friends of Social Progress, of all shades of opinion, will have serious cause of regret if they permit an event so propitious to pass by without an effort equal to the occasion to place their opinions in the hands of these numerous foreigners who may be instrumental in sowing the seeds of truth in quarters they might not otherwise reach for a generation to come.

It is anticipated by the projectors of this Exhibition, and their expectations are reasonable, that it will give a mighty impetus to the progress of physical science—probably advance it a century. Why not also make it subservient to the advancement of those sciences more immediately involving the welfare of the people? If our means of increasing wealth are to be augmented by it, why not also the mode of distributing it facilitated? This is, in fact, the desideratum of modern civilization. To increase wealth, without distributing it, is only a partial good. It rests with the devotees of social science, therefore, to see that this memorable demonstration fulfills the highest possible mission.

As many will come from countries where freedom of speech and press are almost unknown, such an opportunity of getting political and social information may be to them of double value, and the sense of this ought to be to us a double stimulus.

It is proposed that tracts and lectures on political and social subjects be translated into the leading languages and distributed at the Exhibition, as well as at the residences of various foreigners. It is intended, also, to invite the venerable founder of English Socialism, Robert Owen, to deliver a series of lectures during the season. It would be a worthy triumph in the career of such a man. Who ought to be heard with more affection and respect at the meeting of “all nations” than he who has been the devoted and consistent advocate of the welfare of all nations for these last sixty years? The world owes him a debt of gratitude, and no time can be more fitting for its acknowledgment. Public meetings will also be held in various parts of London, to which invitations will be sent to the leading visitors of the Exhibition, and every effort used to take advantage of the great occasion. But in entering upon a war, though a bloody one, the sinews of war must be forthcoming, or the attempt at once abandoned. Let our friends, therefore, north and south, unite with a generosity and enthusiasm commensurate with their cause, and the opportunity and the year '51 may prove the brightest era in the destiny of nations. We would suggest that committees be forthwith formed in Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other populous towns to receive subscriptions and act with the central committee in London. No time should be lost, a week now being worth a month at any other period. Let every true friend of progress feel himself delegated to do a great work, and a great work will be done. We live in an age of popular triumphs. Let us add one more to the list, and that the greatest, the noblest.

R. COOPER, G. J. HOLYOAKE, J. RIGBY,
H. A. IVORY, Hon. Sec.

Communications to be sent in the meantime to the Secretary, 52, College-place, Camden-town, London.

LEEDS REDEMPTION SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SOIREE.—The annual soirée of this society took place at the Music-hall, Leeds, on the evening of Monday, the 13th

instant. A large number of persons partook of tea, and at half-past seven the chair was taken by the Reverend B. R. Larken, by whom the meeting was addressed, as well as by Mr. George Dawson, M.A., Mr. Glover, of Bury, Mr. Joseph Barker, Mr. David Green, Mr. Denton, &c. The report, which was read by Mr. Hobson, secretary to the society, was very favourable as to its position and prospects, and was well received. On the platform, besides the speakers already enumerated, were the Reverend Messrs. Wicksteed and Conder, Mr. Edgar, &c. A full band, vocal as well as instrumental, was in attendance, and performed several pieces with beautiful effect. The late hour at which our report arrives, prevents us giving more than the following of Mr. Dawson's speech:—Mr. George Dawson commenced by saying that it had been his wish for some time past that he might have an opportunity of publicly encouraging this society, as he had been much interested in it on account of its objects and consistency. It had been said that the society had no thing to do with politics, but he thought they had, as they appeared to have something like conservatism in their object. When he was a lad, he was often told that Reformers, Radicals, Levellers, and grumbler, were only those that had nothing to lose; and that if he had only a piece of land, he would like other folks, soon settle down into a quiet Tory, satisfied with the present state of society. And if they only knew the secret workings and progress of society, they would certainly find the old Conservative doctrine, that if any of them were Radicals, it was because they had no land. Therefore, they might take them at their word, and claim additional sympathy and respect on account of their Conservative exertions. He held that the land of a country should be in the hands of the community, and not monopolized by a very few. He considered our social evils resulted to a very great extent from the evil land-laws, and the land arrangements established in this country. If those views were considered subversive, he was led to them by the Bible; it having been his duty once to study the laws of Moses upon that subject. He had no wish to advise the people of this age to revert to Judaism; he would leave that to them who wished to enforce a better observance of the Sabbath; but the spirit of the Judaical law was, that a rich man was commanded not to glean the corners of his corn fields, nor to strip his vine-trees. And, why? So that the poor might participate in the plenty. The land of Judea was given by the Almighty not to a few, but to the people, and the laws were studiously arranged for keeping it amongst the people. Thus it was commanded, if a man should pawn his tools, they must not be kept after sundown; and so, if the land were mortgaged, at the expiration of some years, it again reverted to the original owners. He had long had faith in the doctrine that any man had a private, irremovable possession of the land. The land belongs to the people; and if the land goes into certain hands, it has certain duties attached; it ought to support the poor of a people. If the land belongs to the people, and the people have it not, what should be done? He would not advocate physical force,—he had little sympathy with that,—but he saw in the organization of societies like this a quiet and effectual means of accomplishing that object. He aptly exposed the evils of the entail law, which he would recommend to be abolished; and alluded to the gross neglect of the palpable and practical Christianity of some of its most babbling, formal, self-satisfied, and pharisaical professors. There were two ways of raising £100. One man might give £99, others might make up the other pound. And again 100 people might subscribe £1 each; now, which would indicate a sounder and a better state, although the totals are the same? Some say we are the greatest nation on earth. If England is the greatest nation, on the whole, she yet has a number of poor and wretched with which few countries compare. It is said England is a very fine nation; the sun never sets upon its dominions; they send tracts, and print Bibles by the ton; but what information does this afford about the individual members of that nation? I like this society because it is subversive of the old fallacious plan of looking to the total. It indicates that men are growing tired with the doctrine of totals. It was a curious thing, but he had tried the experiment, that many were profound in a knowledge of the Hindoos; were clever in the various doctrines of Buddhism, Brahminism, and Pantheism; and yet, if these persons were asked as to the condition, belief, and habits of some of the poor in the back slums of Leeds, they would answer, "Don't know." Though deeply skilled in the art and mystery of Chinese domestic and other knowledge, yet if they were asked how their poor countrymen, with a wife and seven children, managed to live upon 6s. a-week, he could not inform you. The speaker himself confessed that he even could not explain that mystery; he considered that we ought to look more at home, and let the enquiry be, not how are the people on the whole, but how is the people made up. The best king England ever had, old King Alfred, understood this doctrine well enough. When he came to reign in England the people were all dunces together; he could not find a clergyman that could read his own prayers. He was an old barbarian they knew, and reigned before the modern and enlightened views of voluntary education, and he sent an embassy to France to catch a learned man and bring him over, and he got some and set them to work instructing the people. Now, if Alfred had entertained the totality theory he might have founded a university, with a half-dozen learned men, and said, England is a learned nation. Another thing for which I like this society is its unpopularity. This world was never yet saved but by what have been regarded foolish, extravagant, Utopian, and eccentric doctrines. Conformity is good in its place, respectable, and decent-looking; it folds its robes tastefully, and decently lies down to die. But it is these novel ideas, and self-willed, devoted, and eccentric men that save. Again, I like this society, because, despite past failure, you are

determined again to try the noble experiment, and brave the jaws of enemies who say such schemes have always failed. But no one has tried your experiment. Your society is under different circumstances to the past, and you may be successful.

SOCIAL HALL, MANCHESTER.—Since my last communication to the *Leader* our institution has been going on well. We have had a succession of lecturers from London; Mr. Lloyd Jones, Mr. George Hooper, and Mr. Walter Cooper, have each in turn lectured to large and attentive audiences, the hall in the evenings being crowded to overflowing. The subjects of Mr. Cooper's lectures were "Alton Locke" and the "Socialism of Literature." We have now entered upon the second quarter. The number of our members increases and our regular audiences get more numerous. We have also been negotiating with some of the surrounding towns for the purpose of sending them lecturers, and are in hopes to have this division of Lancashire organized by the first Sunday in March, at which time the next conference meets.—JOHN MCKENZIE, Secretary.

GLASHIELS STORE.—The annual soirée and ball of this flourishing association was held on the evening of New Year's Day. The large hall in which they met was crammed almost to suffocation. After tea, speeches, music, and dancing, the meeting separated, highly pleased with the entertainment of the evening.



Open Council.

Owing to a press of matter in other departments of the paper we are obliged to crave the indulgence of our correspondents until next week.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Report.)

In the week ending last Saturday 1023 deaths were registered in the districts of the metropolis. In the corresponding weeks of the 10 years (1841-50) the average was 1102; compared with which the present return exhibits a favourable result. And if it could be safely assumed, notwithstanding the effects of various epidemics, that the population has increased yearly at the rate of 1.55 per cent. (the annual rate of increase observed in London between the two censuses of 1831 and 1841), and the above average were proportionally augmented, the comparison would show the public health of the week in a still more satisfactory point of view. But it will be found on examination that, in five out of the ten corresponding weeks, the returns differ little from that of last week, or fall much below it, whilst an excessive mortality presses on other parts of the series, the deaths rising to 1450 at one period, when influenza was on the wane, at another, when cholera had broken out in Drouet's institution, and thus swelling the account above what an average state of health would produce.

The last week exhibits a marked improvement on the first week of the year, chiefly in the decline of fever and the epidemics to which children are subject, but also in the diminished effects of diseases of the respiratory organs. In connection with three cases of typhus, which proved fatal in three different parts of the metropolis, the registrars call attention in their notes to the circumstances in which these events occurred—here "a filthy and overcrowded court," which had been repeatedly complained of as the nursery of disease; at another place, "miserable huts," which had been constructed without regard to comfort or decency; and in the third case, a small back room is described, where six persons had been sleeping, and into which air could not penetrate either by means of the chimney or other channel.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

SATURDAY.

The English Fund Market was firm, and prices had an upward tendency in the beginning of the week. On Thursday, however, a decline took place; yesterday the market continued heavy to the close, and Consols were 4 lower. Yesterday the market opened dull, and prices declined 4.

The range of prices during the week has been as follows:—Consols, 96s. to 96½; Three and-a-Quarter per Cent., 98s. to 99; Exchequer Bills, 55s. to 60s. premium.

The Foreign Stock Market has not displayed any marked feature during the week. The dealings yesterday included Mexicans, 33 to 34 ex div.; Brazilian, New, 1829 and 1839, 87; ditto, New, 1813, 84; Buenos Ayres, 48; Ecuador, 34. In European State Stocks the business transacted included Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 57s. to 58; ditto Four per Cent., 90s. to 1; Danish Five per Cent., 101 to 1; Spanish Three per Cents., 37s. to 38s.; ditto Five per Cents., 17s. to 18s.; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per

Cents., 90s.; Portuguese Five per Cents., 85; ditto Five per Cents. Converted, 36s.; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 96s. to 1.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, Jan. 17.

We have no variation to report in the state of trade during the present week; the supplies of grain are moderate, and the amount of business doing is limited at the prices previously current. The English Wheat, owing to the continued mildness and dampness of the weather, is most of it very much out of condition, and for such it is difficult to find buyers on any terms. At the beginning of the week a good many cargoes of Polish Odessa Wheat changed hands at the very low price of 32s. 6d., including freight and insurance. Since then, however, the importers have been less willing to accept so low a price, and to day some cargoes have been disposed of at 34s. and 34s. 6d. (This wheat being of inferior quality, and the quantity greatly exceeding the consumptive demand, the value of it is reduced considerably below its usual proportion to other descriptions.) At the Country Markets held during the week, the trade has been quiet and without alteration. The first qualities of Malting Barley bring rather better prices; other kinds continue to meet slow sale. The Oat trade continues without any animation.

Arrivals from Jan. 13 to Jan. 17:—

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	1690	—	8020
Barley	2840	—	1480
Oats..	3810	11570	3750

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(Closing Prices.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock ..	214	215	214	214	214	214
5 per Ct. Red. ..	97s.	97s.	97s.	97s.	97s.	97s.
3 p. C. Con. Ans. ..	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.
3 p. C. An. 1736. ..	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.
3 p. Ct. Con. An. ..	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.
3 p. Cent. An. ..	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.	96s.
New 5 per Cts. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Acre, 1860. ..	7	13-16	7	13-16	7	7
Ind. St. 10 p. cts. ..	—	—	—	—	26s.	—
Ditto Bonds	74 p.	76 p.	76 p.	77 p.	78 p.	70 p.
Ex. Bills, 1000. ..	58 p.	59 p.	58 p.	56 p.	58 p.	58 p.
Dutch 5 1/2 per Cents. ..	58 p.	59 p.	60 p.	56 p.	57 p.	—
Ditto, Smal.	58 p.	59 p.	59 p.	57 p.	57 p.	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Friday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents. ..	912	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc. ..	321
Belgian Bds., 14 p. Ct. ..	—	Small. ..	33
Brazilian 5 per Cents. ..	—	Neapolitan 5 per Cents. ..	—
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts. ..	48	Peruvian 4 per Cents. ..	85
Chilian 3 per Cents. ..	—	Portuguese 5 per Cent. ..	85
Danish 5 per Cents. ..	101	—	4 per Cts. ..
Dutch 21 per Cents. ..	58	—	Annuities ..
4 per Cents. ..	91	Russian, 1822, 5 p. Cts. ..	—
Ecuador Bonds	34	Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts. 171	—
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris 55.15	—	Passive ..	—
— 3 p. Cts., Jan. 17, 57.5	—	Deferred ..	—

SHARES.

(Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening.)

	RAILWAYS.	BANKS.	
Caledonian	101	Australasian	304
Eastern Counties	6	British North American ..	—
Edinburgh and Glasgow ..	29	Colonial	—
Great Northern	173	Commercial of London	—
Great North of England	—	London and Westminster	273
Great S. W. (Ireland) ..	40	London Joint Stock	19
Great Western	78	National of Ireland	—
Hull and Selby	101	National Provincial	—
Lancashire and Yorkshire	554	Provincial of Ireland	414
Lancaster and Carlisle	71	Union of Australia	35
London and Blackwall	6	Union of London	128
London and N. Western	123	MINES.	—
Midland	47	Bolanos	—
North British	8	Brazilian Imperial	—
South-Eastern and Dover	23	Ditto, St. John del Rey	—
South-Western	77	Cobre Copper	—
York, Newcas., & Berwick	18	MISCELLANEOUS.	—
York and North Midland	21	Australian Agricultural	—
St. Katharine	—	Canada	—
London	—	General Steam	—
Woolwich	—	Penins. & Oriental Steam	—
St. Katharine	—	Royal Mail Steam	73
Woolwich	—	South Australian	—

GRAIN, Mark-lane, Jan. 17.

Wheat, R. New 36s. to 38s.	Maple	30s. to 31s.
Fine	White	23 — 24
Old	Boilers	25 — 27
White	Beans, Ticks	24 — 25
Fine	Old	26 — 28
Superior New 44	Indiana Corn	30 — 32
Rye	Oats, Feed	15 — 16
Barley	Fine	16 — 17
Malt, Ord.	Poland	17 — 18
Malt, Ord.	Fine	18 — 19
Fine	Potato	17 — 18
Peas, Hdg.	Fine	18 — 19

FLOUR.

Town-made	per sack	40s. to 43s.
Seconds	—	37 — 40
Essex and Suffolk, on board ship	—	3 — 34
Norfolk and Stockton	—	30 — 37
American	per barrel	22 — 23
Canadian	—	21 — 25
Wheat Bread, 7d. the lb. loaf.	Households, 6d.	—

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef	2	4	3	4
Mutton	2	8	3	4
Veal	3	0	4	6
Pork	3	6	3	4

* To skin the offal, per 8lb.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Friday.	M. in day.
Beasts	718	33-9
Sheep	3859	19-070
Calves	181	100
Pigs	310	265

INTENDING LIFE ASSURERS are respectfully invited to compare the Principles, Rates, and whole Provisions of the
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

with those of any other existing Company.

The WHOLE PROFITS are divisible among the Assured, who are, at the same time, specially exempt from personal liability. It thus possesses an obvious advantage over any Proprietary Company.

1. PREMIUMS AT EARLY AND MIDDLE AGES ABOUT A FOURTH LOWER. (See below.)
 2. A MORE ACCURATE ADJUSTMENT OF THE RATES OF PREMIUM TO THE SEVERAL AGES.
 3. A PRINCIPLE IN THE DIVISION OF THE SURPLUS MORE SAFE, EQUITABLE, AND FAVOURABLE TO GOOD LIVES.
 4. EXEMPTION FROM ENTRY MONEY.

Regulations were adopted at the General Meeting in 1849, the effect of which is to render POLICIES INDISPENSABLE EXCEPT

ON ACCOUNT OF FRAUD.

I. ANNUAL PREMIUMS FOR £100 WITH WHOLE PROFITS.									
Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65
£1 15 8	1 18 0	2 16 2	2 6 10	2 14 9	2 9 3	2 9 1	2 17 5	2 11 1	

II. ANNUAL PREMIUMS FOR £100, WITH WHOLE PROFITS, PAYABLE FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS ONLY.									
Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65
£2 7 10	2 10 8	2 14 6	2 19 8	3 6 4	3 14 9	4 7 2			

INVESTMENT AND FAMILY PROVISION.

At present, when interest is so low, attention is invited to the mode of LIFE ASSURANCE BY SINGLE PAYMENTS, and to the peculiarly advantageous terms on which it can be effected to the

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION.

By this mode a person may assure a Policy for £100.

	£	s.	d.
If aged 30, for a Single Payment of...	3	2	0
aged 40	4	8	7
aged 50	5	1	8

At his death his family will receive the £1000, with additions from the profits, on the very favourable principle of this Society. While he lives, he has it in his power to borrow a sum nearly equal to his payment, on the security of the Policy, and increasing yearly with its value, without any expense, and at a moderate rate of interest.

Assurances may be effected in this way, varying in amount from £200 to £1000.

For those who have still before them the duty of securing for their families a competent provision in case of their premature death, the ordinary mode of Life Assurance, by Annual Premiums, payable during life or for a limited number of years, is undoubtedly most suitable; but to those who have already made such provision, the systems now brought under notice are recommended.—the former, as combining a favourable Investment for spare capital with the benefit of Life Assurance, and this on more economical terms; and the latter as a means of securing a provision for the member himself in his declining years.

During last year 557 Policies were opened, above 4000 having been issued since the commencement of the Institution.

Form of Proposal, Prospectus, Copies of the Annual Reports, and every information, will be forwarded free, on application at the Head Office in Edinburgh; or at

THE OFFICE IN LONDON, 12, MOORGATE-STREET.

GEORGE GRANT, Agent and Secretary for London.

ALL POLICIES INDISPENSABLE.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
49, St. James's-street, London.

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Chairman—Lieut.-Colonel Lord ARTHUR LENNOX.	B. Boud Cabbell, Esq., M.P.
Deputy-Chairman—T. C. GRAINGER, Esq., M.P., &c.	Sir R. Claude Scott, Bart.

John Ashburner, Esq., M.D.	Sir James Carmichael, Bart.
T. M. Batard, Esq.	John Gardner, Esq.

J. P. Bathurst, Esq.	Charles Osborn, Esq.
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Assurances granted on the lives of persons in every station of life, and every part of the world, on peculiarly favourable terms.

Policies issued to secure an amount on attaining a certain age, or on death, should it occur previously.

Immediate annuities granted on liberal terms, affording great advantage to persons of limited income.

Deferred annuities may be purchased at rates which secure a return of the whole or part of the premiums paid, in case the age at which the annuity is to commence is not attained.

Also endowments on widows and children.

All the Company's engagements are guaranteed by an ample subscribed and paid-up capital.

Prospectuses and the necessary forms of proposal, with every information, may be obtained on application, either personally or by letter, at the Company's offices.

A liberal commission allowed to solicitors and agents in every branch of business.

H. D. DAVENPORT, Sec.

JAMES EPPS'S PREPARED COCOA.

Cocoa is a nut, which, besides farinaceous substance, contains a small oil.

The oil in this nut has one advantage, which is that it is less liable than any other oil to rancidity.

Possessing these two nutritive substances, cocoa becomes a most valuable article of diet, more particularly if, by mechanical or other means, the farinaceous substance can be so perfectly incorporated with the oil that the one will prevent the other from separating. Such a union is presented in the cocoa prepared by James Epps, Homoeopathic Chemist, 112, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London; and thus, while the delightful flavour, in part dependent on the oil, is retained, the whole preparation will agree with the most delicate stomach.

Jam Epps's name and address is on each packet. The address of any local Agent forwarded immediately on application.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR, WHISKERS, EYES, &c.

BROWNS, &c., may be with certainty obtained by using

a very small portion of ROSALIE COUPPELLE'S PARISIAN POMADE, every morning, instead of any oil or other preparation.

A fortnight's use will, in most cases, show its surprising properties in producing and curling Whiskers, Hair, &c., at any age, from whatever cause deficient; as also thickening grayness, &c.

Send free by post, with instructions, &c., on receipt of twenty-four postage stamps, by Miss Coupelle, Ely-place, Holborn, London; who may be consulted on these matters daily, from two till five o'clock.

TESTIMONIALS.

Lieutenant Holroyd, R.N., writes: "Its effects are truly astonishing; it has thickened and darkened my hair very much."

Mrs. Buckley, Stapleford: "Your delightful Pomade has improved my hair wonderfully."

Mr. Yates, hair-dresser, Malton: "The young man has now a good pair of Whiskers; I want you to send me two pots for other customers of mine."

Miss Lello, Worthing: "I use your Pomade in my nursery, as I find it very useful for children's hair also."

Do NOT CUT YOUR CORNS—BUT CURE THEM.

Also will be sent (free), on receipt of thirteen stamps, her only safe, speedy, and lasting cure for soft or hard corns, bunions, &c.

It cures in three days, and is never failing.

Mrs. Hughes, Salsbury: "It cured my corns, and three bunions, amazingly quick, and is the best and safest thing I have ever met with."

Address: MISS COUPELLE, Ely-place, Holborn, London.

PROVISION FOR ADVANCED AGE.

To Clergymen, or other professional men, and to all whose income is dependent on the continuance of health, the Directors recommend attention to the scale of DEFERRED ANNUITIES, which are calculated on very advantageous terms. The following are examples of the

ANNUAL PREMIUM FOR ANNUITY OF £50, commencing at

the following ages:—

Age at Entry.	Age at which Annuity is to commence.	50	55	60	65
20	£9 5 0	£3 16 8	£3 10 0	£1 19 11	
25	17 1	7 18 4	4 14 2	2 12 11	
30	18 12 1	11 1 3	6 8 9	3 11 3	
35	23 13 9	16 2 1	9 0 5	4 18 4	

Thus an Annuity of £50 may be secured for a person now aged 25, to commence on his attaining age 60, and payable half-yearly during life, for an Annual Premium of £1 14s. 2d.

For those who have still before them the duty of securing for their families a competent provision in case of their premature death, the ordinary mode of Life Assurance, by Annual Premiums, payable during life or for a limited number of years, is undoubtedly most suitable; but to those who have already made such provision, the systems now brought under notice are recommended.—the former, as combining a favourable Investment for spare capital with the benefit of Life Assurance, and this on more economical terms; and the latter as a means of securing a provision for the member himself in his declining years.

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A CARD.

C. DOBSON COLLET, of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, Teacher of Singing. For Terms of Musical Lectures, Private Lessons, or Class Teaching, in Town or Country, apply to C. D. C. B., Essex-street, Strand.

SASSAFRAS CHOCOLATE.—DR. DE LA MOTTE.

This Chocolate contains the peculiar virtues of the SASSAFRAS root, which has been long held in great estimation for its purifying and alterative properties. The AROMATIC QUALITY (which is very grateful to the stomach) most invalids require for breakfast and evening repast to PROMOTE DIGESTION, and to a deficiency of this property in the customary breakfast and supper may, in a great measure, be attributed the frequency of cases of INDIGESTION generally termed BILLIOUS. It has been found highly beneficial in correcting the state of the digestive organs, &c., from whence arise many diseases, such as eruptions of the skin, gout, rheumatism, and scrofula. In cases of DEBILITY of the STOMACH, and a sluggish state of the liver and intestines, occasioning flatulences, costiveness, &c., and in spasmodic asthma, it is much recommended.

Sold in pound packets, price 4s., by the Patentee, 12, SOUTHAMPTON-STREET, STRAND, LONDON; by appointed Agents, Chemists, and others. N.B. For a list of Agents, see Bradshaw's Sixpenny Guide.

CALUMNY AND INTRIGUE IN HIGH LIFE.

[The following are copies of the Letters that were addressed to Mr. Roebeck by Mr. Doria, referred to in the statement which appears in the body of our paper.]

London, January 9, 1851.

SIR.—I have only this day arrived in London, having come up from Scotland in consequence of the publication of a story in the newspapers, the knowledge of which publication reached me only on Tuesday last, and the tenor of which story, however gross the misrepresentations, points but too clearly to myself, and to recent occurrences, of the details of which you are thoroughly cognizant.

I am unwilling to believe that the false imputations cast upon me in this calumnious story can have been published with any knowledge or sanction on your part. But, as the share you have taken in this business renders you the only fit person to give a contradiction to these falsehoods, I trust I shall not be disappointed in looking to you for an immediate and authoritative contradiction.

You are well aware that all question of a hostile meeting between myself and Captain Yererton was absolutely prohibited by yourself the first moment of your dealing with the question as the friend in whose hands Captain Yererton had placed himself.

It is unnecessary now that I should enter into further details. I have hitherto gone to every practicable length on my own side to save other parties from public and injurious scandal; and it will be most unwillingly that I shall be forced to any course in my own defence that shall risk the being injurious to others; but under so false and disgraceful an imputation as this, I can rest.

I have requested my friend, Mr. Girdlestone, to be the bearer of this letter, as he has been already mixed up with former proceedings, and is fully acquainted with everything that has taken place. He is in my perfect confidence, and well apprised of all my feelings and determination on the subject.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM DORIA.

Brookenhurst, January 10, 1851.

SIR.—I have this moment learnt with surprize and indignation that you decline to contradict a public statement, of the falsehood of which you are perfectly aware, and that you shrink in a dastardly manner from acting up to the responsibility which such conduct naturally throws upon you; and as you refuse to name a friend to act for you, I am left no alternative but to pursue the course I have just warned you I should take.

I am, Sir, yours with utter contempt,

To J. A. Roebeck, Esq.

WILLIAM DORIA.

CANTERBURY versus ROME.

No. 2 on Saturday the 25th instant.

CONTENTS.—The Royal Church—The Martyrology of the Uncanonical Christians—Christianity and the Church Doctrine and Practice Contrasted.

Supplements to Nos. 1 and 2 complete a condensed History of the Anglo-Papal Church and its leading prelates.

All orders to be forwarded to Mr. Dipple, Publisher, Holwell-street, Strand, London.

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BEILDAGON CHURCH. A Religious Poem.

THE PRINTER of FLORENCE. A Domestic Poem.

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The above Poems of Ernest Jones, composed by the author while a political prisoner, will be published in weekly numbers, price 2s. 6d. each, as soon as there is a sufficient number of subscribers to cover expenses. All parties, therefore, desirous of subscribing to the above series are requested to write to that effect to Ernest Jones, Hardwick-lodge, Moscow-road, Bayswater, London.

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DR. CULVERWELL ON NERVOUSNESS, DEBILITY, AND INDIGESTION.

Price 1s.; by Post, 1s. 6d.

WHAT TO EAT, DRINK, AND AVOID.

"Abstinents multi curantur morbi."

An Address to the Young, the Delicate, the Valetudinarian, and Invalid; instructive of how to avert many of the illnesses of life; and showing, also, the resources we have within ourselves to remedy them and live again.

Sherwood, 23, Paternoster-row; Mann, 32, Cornhill; and the Author, 10, Argyle-place, Regent-street: consultation hours, ten till five; evenings, seven till nine.

STAYS SUPERSEDED.—Stiff Stays destroy natural grace, produce deformity, and implant disease, curvature of the spine, and consumption; and a host of evils arise from their use. A substitute is provided by MARTIN'S ELASTIC BODICE, or Anti-Consumption Corset, which is perfectly elastic, is without whalebone, furnishes a good support, is easy and graceful in wear, will wash, is unaffected by heat or cold; has a simple fastening, obviating the trouble of lacing. Can be sent post-free for a small additional charge. A prospectus and engraving sent on receipt of a stamp for postage.—E. and E. H. MARTIN, Surgical Bandage Makers, 504, Oxford-street, London, near the British Museum.

K EATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are daily recommended by the Faculty—testimonials from the most eminent of whom may be inspected—as the most effectual, safe, speedy, and convenient remedy for Cough and all disorders of the lungs, chest, and throat.

Prepared and sold in boxes, 1s. 1d., and tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS K EATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London. Sold retail by all Druggists.

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